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北京青年报
BEIJING YOUTH DAILY



Multimedia art
blasts Beijing's
bourgeois
Page 12



Seychelles: the
ultimate island escape
Page 21



Dealing with BO:
advice not to be
sniffed at
Page 19

Italian woman dies in Chaoyang knife attack

Page 2

A nation's grief

China mourns peacekeeping hero
killed in Israeli bomb blast



Du Zhaoyu



Du Zhaoyu was one of the four who were killed when an Israeli bomb was dropped on their observation post in Lebanon. His family flew to the war-torn country yesterday evening to bring his body home and friends paid their respects in Shandong

Province, his home town.

Here, UN Indian peacekeepers carry the body of their colleague after the UN post in al Khiam village near the Lebanese Israeli border was bombed during an Israeli air raid on the villages in south Lebanon.

Digital guide puts China in your hand

By Chen Shasha

Carol Decker, the lead singer of the 80s pop power balladeers T'pau, once crooned "...your dreams are China in your hand." Thanks to a technological breakthrough, life is imitating art with the launch of Cityguide-Beijing. It's a service providing international visitors with comprehensive city information via mobile phones, a website and a call center.

Cityguide-Beijing is a mobile electronic version of the Beijing Travel Handbook. It features multimedia information and one-touch dial for human operator services. It can supply information on dining, shopping, accommodation and transport whenever needed. The mobile unit can provide digital interpretation, speaking Chinese when asked, to help non-natives communicate with taxi drivers and wait staff.

The information in the mobile unit is carefully cataloged. Take dining for example, a search for food can be conducted based on tastes or ingredients. "Foreigners don't quite understand what the food is from a pinyin romanization of its name in Chinese," said Sun Lin, from Capino Limited Company, which launched the Cityguide-Beijing project. The mobile unit can also offer handy tips on things like water drinking and using chopsticks.

"More than one hundred foreigners took part in a trial of the mobile units and offered their comments on the service. After that, 25,000 everyday sentences and famous place names were selected and added to the digital vocabulary, based on the tester's feedback.

The Cityguide mobile service is planned to be multi-lingual, and will eventually be available in English, French, Spanish and Japanese versions.

The service can be accessed by visiting nicebeijing.com or calling 5851 5568, where you can either search for information about Beijing or rent one of the Cityguide-Beijing mobile units. Rental is US\$5 per day.

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By Chu Meng

An Italian woman was stabbed to death in the early hours of Tuesday near Beijing's Chaoyang Park, the city's Public Security Bureau and the Italian Embassy confirmed yesterday.

On Wednesday afternoon, some dozen foreigners in their 20s gathered at the site where the woman died, south of Chaoyang Park, in a tearful commemoration ceremony. Candles were lit and

placed on the ground.

A police spokesperson identified the woman as 28-year-old Italian Paola Sandri, who had arrived in China on June 18. He said the police received a report at 2:04 on Tuesday morning that a foreign woman had been wounded and was lying prostrate in a street south of Chaoyang Park.

When police reached the site, an ambulance was preparing to take the woman to Chaoyang Hospital,

where she died two hours later. The police have confirmed that Ms Sandri was killed in a robbery, adding that their investigation was ongoing. Ms Sandri's body has been sent to the police Legal Medical Examination Center for conformation of cause of death.

An employee of the Cultural Department of the Italian Embassy said the embassy was in contact with the police. "She actually worked in the embassy's cultural department

in 2004. She left the embassy one and a half years later. She was a Chinese teacher at a French university after that, and was in China this time to travel and for research."

According to the *Beijing News*, the police found a 20-centimetre dagger, a mobile phone and a black umbrella in a pool of blood on the ground. The trail of blood stretched for nearly 100 meters, leading police to speculate that Sandri had tried to escape before she fell to the ground.

Curbs on overseas property investment in Beijing

By Qiu Jiaoning

Overseas investors who have worked or studied in Beijing for more than one year can buy only one house for their personal use, which must be registered in their real name, Beijing Construction Committee said, after the State Council approved new regulations on Monday curbing overseas investment in real-estate market.

Overseas investors includes those from Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan as well as from countries other than China.

A report by Debenham Tie Leung (DTZ) found that half of the foreign direct investment in China's property market has poured into Beijing's new high-rise buildings. Morgan Stanley recently signed a deal in Beijing worth US\$50 million and Merrill Lynch has prepared a property investment deal worth US\$30 million in downtown Beijing.

The overwhelming majority of foreign real estate investments have been concentrated in Beijing and Shanghai, said Nicholas Cho, director of DTZ's investment department.

Wang Yongping, a senior consultant with the Ministry of Commerce, said that the new regulation is a further attempt to curb rampant speculation in the real estate sector, but not to prevent retail giants expansion plans in China.

Face to face with fascinating furniture



2006 Old Time Global Furniture Exhibition opens in the Beijing World Art Museum of the Millennium Monument on Thursday.

Photo by CFP

Former world champion detained for drunk driving

By Chu Meng

The former world champion, Chinese table tennis star Kong Linghui apologized on Wednesday night for drink driving early last Friday morning.

Kong Linghui was convicted of drink driving, and detained and fined following an accident last Friday. In an open letter to his fans he said, "I'm devastated by what I have done. I know I must abide by traffic laws and regulations like anyone else and

that being a sport star doesn't give me the right to break the law. My period of detention was lifted early because of the coming Super Union Championships."

The 30-year-old Kong, a 'grand slam' winner of Olympic, world championships and World Cup men's singles titles, was bailed by China's table tennis and badminton administrative center hours after being detained. Kong was fined 1,800 yuan (about US\$225) and

had his driving license suspended for six months.

The champion will also face punishment from the national sports governing body within the week.

Kong's navy-blue Porche Boxster-s slammed into a taxi at around 3:30 am last Friday near the Beijing Workers' Stadium and the police with the Chaoyang Traffic Bureau detained both Kong and the taxi driver. The police said no one was injured in the accident.

Visitors can call on Dowager Empress' phone

By Han Manman

A telephone line at the Summer Palace once used by Dowager Empress Cixi and emperor Guangxu a century ago is now open again for public viewing. Installed in 1908, it was the first royal telephone line in China's last Imperial Dynasty, the Qing, which fell in 1911.

Installed in the 'water and wood palace' in the Summer Palace, there was no need to dial a number on the telephone – it was directly linked with the Royal Telephone Bureau at the Imperial Palace. Unlike today's phones, visitors need to hold the speaker to their ear and speak into the mouthpiece on the wooden box



Dialing the empress' phone

in front of them. If you are lucky, someone in the Imperial Palace may talk with you, otherwise you will hear a recording.

Jin Wei, of the Summer Palace's management office, said that Dowager Empress Cixi (1836-1908) lived permanently at the Summer Palace in her last years, which made the park the most important center for political and foreign affairs. This special line was set up to allow the empress to keep tabs on her son, the Guangxu Emperor (1870-1908).

The telephone can be seen together with an exhibition on early telecommunications history and culture that also opened this week.

Online map helps drivers find parking spaces

By Han Manman

Almost all drivers have experienced problems finding a parking space in Beijing. But that problem could soon be a thing of the past. The Beijing Transportation Management Bureau (BTMB) has launched an online map of parking spaces in the capital allowing motorists to check the availability of the city's 1,496 parking spaces online before setting off on their journeys.

By going to www.beijing-parking.com, drivers can search for the nearest parking space by inputting the name of their destination, the numbers of free car spaces and parking fees.

BTMB claims this is the first online map detailing parking spaces in Beijing.

Cheap night flights between Beijing and Wuxi

By Huang Daohen

Cheap nighttime flights from Beijing to Wuxi will be launched on August 11.

They will be the first 'red eye flights' from Beijing's Capital International Airport (CIA), with ticket prices up to 60% cheaper than daytime flights at around 430 yuan each.

Airport authorities say they opened the night flights to help cope with huge demand. Between July 1 and July 10 this year, over 1,500 people flew on Shenzhen Airlines between Beijing and Wuxi, double that of last year.

The flights have been scheduled for 10:45pm Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday.

Pop in the park

By Annie Wei

Beijing Pop Music Festival 2006 is scheduled for September 9 and 10 in Chaoyang Park.

The organizer said there would be three stages compared with only one stage at previous outdoor concerts. As well as from different kinds of pop music, the event also finds room for professional DJ spinning and dance areas. Meanwhile, extreme sports like snowboarding show will be presented.

The two-day concert will last 20 hours, over two nights. Come down to hear British rock n' roll, folk music, heavy metal, punk, and electronic. Famous bands like Placebo, Supergrass and Sebastian Bach will all play. Other foreign performers and bands are Mozella (soul music), Don Juan Dracula from Norway (Electronic), Karin Park from Switzerland (folk music), and Lex (hip-hop) from the USA. Chinese rock bands like Muma and AK-47 will also perform.

First auction of a state-owned railway to private buyers

By Chu Meng

A 62-kilometer state-owned railway in south China is due to be auctioned, and may possibly become the first railway in China to be completely owned by non-public investors.

The railway's present owner, the state-owned Luoding Railway Co., has been an unprofitable coal carrier servicing two under-developed cities in South China's Guangdong Province. The auction was announced on the website of the Guangzhou Enterprises Mergers & Acquisitions Services this week.

The announcement stipulates that prospective buyers must have

assets totaling at least seven billion yuan, and debt-to-asset ratio of less than 50 percent. "The local government has agreed to auction the Chunluo railway connecting Yangchun and Luoding cities, to raise money for the construction of another railway," said Fu Dunan, general manager of the state-owned Luoding Yongsheng Assets Management Company, which owns the Luoding Railway Company.

Fu said the company has asked the Ministry of Railways whether the railway can be sold to foreign investors, but the ministry has not yet replied. "It remains a possibil-

ity," he said.

Fu said that the Luoding Railway Co. was carrying a total debt of 794 million yuan at the end of last year. "The main reason for these huge debts was a lack of freight transport on the Chunluo railway, which did not link with the national railway network," Fu said, "buyers will have to take over all debts of Guoding Railway Co., and also undertake the construction of the new railway."

A new railway has been planned in the area to extend the Chunluo railway to Cenxi in neighboring Guangxi, which should be a key railway linking Guangdong

and Guangxi in years to come.

Beginning in the late 1990s, private domestic investors were allowed to enter China's railway freight sector, and later to expand business into passenger transportation on some railways. However, China's first railway built with some private investment was not seen until April of last year.

A document released by the Ministry of Railways last year said the ministry would encourage all kinds of non-public investment in the construction and renovation of the country's national rail network, including branch and local lines.

Insuring against altitude sickness

By Han Manman

China's first altitude sickness insurance policy has been launched - just weeks after the opening of the world's highest railway between Qinghai and Tibet.

PICC Health Insurance Company, which launched the policy, said it was available for anyone aged between three and 70. The policy will cover pulmonary edema and hydrocephalus caused by altitude sickness, the company said. It will cost 88 yuan, be valid for 30 days, and will include cover for up to 10,000 yuan in hospital charges.

Thousands of tourists have traveled to Tibet since the opening of the Qinghai-Tibet Railway and some have claimed the rail trip - which takes travelers to a height of 5,000m - made them ill.

The latest complaints came from tourists who suffered from acute altitude sickness on the plateau and asked for reimbursements from insurance companies, but were refused by the companies who said that altitude sickness was not covered by their policies.

Brief News More Bilis victims

Typhoon Bilis, which caused heavy floods and rainstorms in seven southern provinces and regions, has left 612 people dead and 208 missing, the office of the National Natural Disaster Reduction Committee announced this week.

Local governments misappropriate 174 million

Nineteen local government departments have misappropriated a total of 174 million yuan (US\$22 million) to build office buildings or buy cars, according to a report issued this Wednesday by the municipal Auditing Bureau.

Food poisoning cases down

A total of 315 people were poisoned in 28 cases of food poisoning in the first six months of this year, 55 less than in the same period last year, the municipal Health Inspection Institute said this week.

Higher income for urban residents

Average incomes for the capital's urban residents' for the first half of this year rose to over 10,160 yuan (US\$1,272), up some 15 percent, according to the Survey Office of the National Bureau of Statistics in Beijing.

First lunar explorer

Assembly of the Chang'e-1, the nation's first lunar explorer, is complete, Sun Laiyan, head of the China National Space Administration, announced this week.

More international travel

The number of people entering and leaving the country in the first half of this year hit over 5.7 million, up some 20 percent on the same period last year, according to Beijing Customs.

(By Jiang Xubo)

Typhoon floods Beijing-Zhuhai express



Typhoon Kaemi, flooded the Beijing-Zhuhai express' section in Hunan province this week.

Xinhua Photo

National hunt for DVD pirates

By Jiang Xubo

The Ministry of Public Security issued the country's first nationwide arrest warrants last week for two people wanted for the marketing of pirated DVDs, part of a 100-day national campaign against pirated materials. A reward of 10,000 yuan (US\$1,250) was offered for any information leading to the arrest of the man and woman named.

Sun Xuemei (a 29-year-old woman) and Zhang Li (a 32-year-

old man), both from Tianjin, are accused of buying 180,000 pirated DVDs in Guangdong Province and attempting to sell them in Tianjin in March.

The campaign, a joint initiative of the Ministry of Public Security, the General Administration of Press and Publication, the national Office for Fighting against Pornographic and Illegal Publications, and other agencies, was launched last week and is set to last through

the end of October.

Production and sale of pirated materials including CDs, DVDs and computer software will be targeted.

Shops selling up to 100 pirated copies of video products or software will face fines of between 10,000 yuan (US\$1,250) and 50,000 yuan (US\$6,250). Shops that have sold more than 100 pirated items may also get their trading licenses suspended.

Beijing classic cars join Hamburg-Shanghai rally

By Jackie Zhang

Six classic cars set off on a journey from Beijing to Shanghai on Thursday morning with 42 other classic cars, which had traveled all the way to Beijing from Germany.

Their trip is part of the Hamburg-Shanghai Rally, organized to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the twinning of Hamburg and Shanghai.

"These six classic cars are provided by Society of Automotive Engineers of Beijing Classic Cars Association. The cars will represent China in the event," said Luo Wenyou, chairman of the Classic Cars Association. "Among the six cars, two of them are Hongqi cars made in Beijing in the 1970s. The oldest car is the Citroen 2CV produced in the early 1950s. We also added one

German made Volkswagen and a Shanghai-made classic car as the rally is about celebrating the two cities' relationship."

The 42 German classic cars started their journey at the end of May, passing through Poland, Russia and Mongolia before arriving in Beijing on Monday evening. By the end of the rally they will have traveled over 14,000 kilometers.

Unclaimed bodies up in Beijing morgues

By Chen Shasha

One in four places at the mortuary in Chaoyang's Anzhen hospital are occupied by unclaimed corpses, some of which have been there for over two years, according to hospital staff. And Anzhen is not the only city hospital facing the problem of the unclaimed dead clogging up its morgue.

Beijing University Hospital, the Electric Power Hospital and the Aerospace Hospital all report similar problems at their morgues. "We have tried our best to solve the problem, but without permission from the relatives of the deceased, or from the police and health authorities, we don't dare send the bodies for cremation," says Dr Zhang Xianfeng, from Anzhen hospital.

Bodies in the mortuary at the Anzhen hospital each have a name tag giving the deceased's name, cause of death, and a contact number for next of kin. Yet no next of kin information is available for many, like the late Mr Liu, who died aged 64 in February 2004. Mr Liu was badly injured in a traffic accident, and

sent to hospital by passers-by at the scene. Busy attempting to save Mr Liu's life, no one took any contact details for these passers-by. Later, after Mr Liu died of his injuries, the hospital used newspaper announcements in an attempt to contact his relatives, but to no avail.

Cold storage

Mr Liu's body has now lain in cold storage at the mortuary for over two years, along with five other unclaimed corpses. The youngest, a month-old child of poor parents from Henan province, was abandoned because the family owed the hospital thousands of yuan in medical fees. They chose to disappear rather than pay.

In a similar case at Beijing University hospital, a 67-year-old man who died in 2004 left unpaid medical bills of 190,000 yuan. His family wouldn't pay, so his body remains in the mortuary. Dr Zhang says that disputes between medical staff and patients and their families are one of the main causes of bodies going

unclaimed. However, Judge Ma Jun, of Haidian court, says that determining whether a death has been caused by medicine malpractice remains problematic because law enforcement officers lack adequate medical knowledge. And without a final ruling on whether or not malpractice has occurred, hospitals dare not dispose of a corpse, both Ma and Zhang agree.

Unpaid bills

The average cost of keeping a body in a mortuary is between 30 to 50 yuan per day. This means that hospitals are in theory owed millions for some of the longest-staying dead. Hospitals are left paying high electricity bills. The other main problem is one of space, as new bodies arrive. Mortuary staff sometimes have to fit three unclaimed corpses into one space during busy times. "But we have to keep them here at our hospital," says Dr Zhang Xianfeng, adding that even though relatives may fail to deal with the body of a family member for years, the hospital feels unable to dispose of them, even by

moving them to a different mortuary at another institution.

State Council regulations covering medical malpractice, issued in 2002, stipulate that the body of a person who dies in hospital need only be kept for a maximum of two weeks. After this period, with the permission of the Bureau of Health and police, the hospital can dispose of the corpse 'according to the regulations'. The problem, according to Judge Ma Jun, is that, "It doesn't state what these regulations the hospital should follow are."

Police records

Ge Fengtai, of Chaoyang's Bureau of Health, says that his department would permit a hospital to dispose of a body so long as the police have made records and given their permission too. However, some hospitals claim attempts to have such cases put on record by the police have been turned down. They allege police claim to have no department responsible for unclaimed corpses, and also to be unaware of how to handle medical malpractice cases.

Toxic water found in 34 buildings in Haidian

By Qiu Jiaoning

Residents of Baiwang Jiayuan Community (Baiwang) in Haidian district, were forced to use water brought in by tankers this week after toxins were found in the water supply in 34 buildings in the area, an official from Haidian Water Authority said on Tuesday.

"Our authority has sent five water tankers to be on 24-hour duty and safeguard Baiwang residents' daily water supply," said Zhang, an official from Haidian Water Authority, "The vehicles will guarantee residents' water demands can be met until the health authority has confirmed that all toxins are completely removed from their mains water."

Contaminated

An urgent notice issued by the Baiwang homeowners committee stated that the local health bureau found that water supplying 34 buildings had become contaminated by toxins after waterproof materials permeated into mains water pipes.

Haidian Center for Disease Control and Prevention said in a report that their staff have detected cancer-causing chemicals including benzene and styrene. The worst sample showed levels of two carcinogenic chemicals 10 times higher than normal.

Baiwang residents said that a month ago they had noticed their water had an unusual smell. A woman surnamed Gong living in Building 21 at Baiwang said that her skin had reacted after taking a bath in the contaminated water. Fortunately, no resident has yet shown signs of poisoning from drinking the toxic water.

Every effort

"However, it's hard to measure the potential risks such toxic chemicals present to people," said Han Hongxing from Center of Health Inspection and Supervision, a division of the Haidian Health Bureau. Han said that the bureau has made every effort to purify Baiwang's water and remove the source of the contamination. "After purification, we only regard the water as safe for human use if two successive tests show no toxins present," said Han. The first test results will be available today.

Halt on sale of centuries-old mansion



The current owner showing a picture of her ancestors taken in the mansion.

Xinhua Photo

By Chu Meng

The sale and relocation abroad of Cuipingju Mansion, a 200-year-old house in southern China's Anhui Province, has been stopped just fourteen days before its scheduled date. The classic mansion was to be rebuilt in the city of Gothenburg in Sweden.

Rumors that the restored Swedish merchantman the *Gothenburg* planned to carry the mansion back home after its voyage to China's Guangzhou, have this week been denied by Annica Magnusson, PR spokesperson of the Swedish East

India Company, which owns the ship.

The house was early this week listed, at the very last minute, as a cultural relic by Anhui Provincial Cultural Relics Bureau.

Wu Xiangxi, in charge of cultural affairs in Shitai County, Anhui, said, "The house has recently been identified as a cultural relic, and their sale is forbidden in China."

Wu also admitted that an oversight by the County Cultural Bureau had caused the problem in the first place, adding, "Privately owned cultural relics

should be identified and protected as soon as possible."

Jan-Erik Nilsson, who planned to buy the house, obviously loves China. As well as restoring the merchant ship the *Gothenburg* and sailing her to China a quarter of a century later, Nilsson visited Shitai County in June, 2005, where he fell for the classic style and atmosphere of the historic Cuipingju Mansion.

Nilsson expressed sadness that the sale had been stopped, "I was personally stunned by the beauty of the house. But nobody told me it was a cultural

relic at that time. The owners and villagers did not treat it as a cultural relic either."

Cuipingju is an ordinary two-story building with a courtyard inside, but the walls of the house are covered with embossed wood carvings. After long-running negotiations with Tian Fang, the owner of Cuipingju Mansion, whose family has lived there for generations, Nilsson and Tian reached an agreement to sell it for 200,000 yuan. Nilsson intended to transport the whole house for reconstruction in Gothenburg later this year.

Near-death experience research on Tangshan survivors



Tangshan residents lay flowers to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the massive earthquake.

Reuters Photo

Shanghai, July 24 (Interfax News Agency) – Chinese psychologists are conducting medical research into the near-death experience on the survivors of the Tangshan earthquake, which hit the city, 180km east of Beijing, on July 28, 1976.

Feng Zhiying, a professor and the former president of Tianjin Anding Hospital, surveyed 81 survivors of the Tangshan earthquake, which caused 240,000 deaths.

Some 43 men and 38 women, 76 of whom suffered paraplegia

after the earthquake were questioned, the largest number to be surveyed in a near-death study, its organizers believe.

Researchers found that half of the survivors felt that, during the earthquake, their consciousness was separated from their body, one third felt that they were passing through some kind of channel to another dimension, and a quarter of those surveyed said that their body parts felt like they were falling to different places, and then into an abyss.

The study also found 47 of the 81 cases experienced a personality change, and that all aspects of their life had been reflected in their near-death experience.

Experts at the hospital have tried to put the research to clinical use. The study is of psychological significance, providing valuable understanding in the treatment of personality changes.

“Near-death research is still a basic theory,” an official of Tianjin Anding Hospital said, “and can not be put into clinical use in the near future.”

Interview with the editor:

As today (July 28) is the 30th anniversary of the Tangshan Earthquake, many reports are mentioning the disaster again.

However we believe a report like this is more positive and encouraging than ‘sensitive’. It is great to see positives being taken from a tragedy, and we were of course happy to report such news.

As a foreign news agency, we understand the tragedy still features prominently in the minds of the Chinese people, and so of course, such matters should be reported sensitively and with respect.

We would like to thank our Chinese colleague, Zhong Dehong. He had the contacts with the people in the Anding Hospital, Tianjin, and came up with the idea to do this report.

The research is still controversial here. We hope this report could remind people that we can always find something encouraging even in the most disheartening events, and we hope the experiment can continue.

– Cameron Wilson,
Interfax, Shanghai



Cameras are now common in public areas in Beijing.

Photo by sina.com

Beijing boosts security with closed TV system

Beijing, July 24 (NewsAsia) – All public surveillance cameras in Beijing will be hooked up to a central system by the end of next year, as a part of the city’s efforts to boost security ahead of the 2008 Olympic Games.

Beijing has more than a quarter million surveillance cameras. More than 90 percent are installed in banks, schools, hotels, restaurants and housing areas. And by year’s end, key public areas like the subway will also have such cameras.

Gesang Nyima, a Tibetan souvenir shop owner, said, “Having the camera is so good as things in my shop won’t be taken. I can go home at night. It’s too cold to sleep here in the winter.”

“As the Olympic host, Beijing’s image is very critical. Safety must be top priority. You have the best athletes from around the world visiting China, so their safety comes first,” said one resident.

“These days, unexpected incidents occur, not just against individuals but public places too. So more is definitely better,” said another.

But some Beijing residents are concerned about the possible intrusion into their privacy.

“By the time you spot something happening and rush to the scene, it’ll be too late. It’s the same when there are no cameras, and I make a report after an incident,” said one resident.

The government’s now gathering feedback on a draft law to regulate city-wide surveillance.

Once the surveillance system is fully in place, Beijing may well qualify as one of the safest cities in the world.

Interview with the reporter:

We fully understand Beijing’s efforts to ensure public security, especially in the run-up to the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games.

Also Beijing is a big city and is facing conflicting pressures both from home and international terrorism. This step is necessary.

But keep in mind that police must protect people’s privacy and people have a responsibility to cooperate with the police and government. We have heard that some people are opposing the link-up, which we think is unwise.

– Cai-Mei Dai, NewsAsia



The reactor is set to test in Anhui, August 15. CFP Photo

China to test ‘artificial sun’

Beijing, July 24 (UPI) – The first plasma discharge from China’s experimental advanced superconducting research center – the so-called ‘artificial sun’ – is set to occur next month.

The discharge, expected about August 15, will be conducted at Science Island in Hefei, in east China’s Anhui Province, the People’s Daily reported Monday.

Scientists told the newspaper a successful test will mean the world’s first nuclear fusion device of its kind will be ready to go into actual operation, the newspaper said.

The plasma discharge will draw international attention since some scientists are concerned with the risks involved in such a process. But Chinese researchers involved in the project say any radiation will cease once the test is completed.

The experiment will take place in a structure made of reinforced concrete, with five-foot-thick walls and a three-foot-thick roof.

KFC faces backlash after advert

Beijing, July 23 (The Independent) – When Kentucky Fried Chicken decided to make a long-dead national hero the star of their latest TV commercial in China, they expected it to help them in their battle for supremacy in the burgeoning Western-style fast food market in China.

But the result is KFC became the latest foreign company to be accused of showing a lack of respect for Chinese culture in its eagerness to push its products in the world’s fastest-growing economy.

The controversy over the ad, which features an aged Taoist

monk proclaiming a chicken burger to be a ‘masterpiece’, is the latest example of a growing backlash against Western influences.

KFC’s monk is based on Fu Qingzhu, who helped defend China against invaders in the early 17th century.

Zhao Shu, vice-chairman of the Chinese Folk Literature and Art Society, said whenever companies enter foreign markets, they must never forget one principle: “to respect the target customer’s cultural traditions”.

Taoists have ridiculed the KFC commercial, as most Taoists are vegetarians.

Interview with the reporter:

I first read this report on Xinhua’s website. As many of us can recall, many similar cases have happened before. This is not the first, nor will it be the last.

The Nike boycott last year, and Toyota’s Pajero ad design are both lessons foreign companies have to keep in mind. You come to China and sell your products here. You must respect and follow local cul-

Fu Qingzhu is a character in the film Seven Swords.



CFP Photo

Gome swallows China Paradise for US\$676 million

By Gan Tian

Gome Electrical Appliance Holding Ltd, China's biggest home appliance chain, announced Wednesday it has acquired one of its biggest rivals, China Paradise Electronics, for HK\$5.27 billion (US\$675.6 million).

With the merger, Gome will increase its already vast market power to US\$8 billion in annual sales. It currently holds one tenth of China's electronics market.

The top three Chinese electricity chains – Gome, Suning and Par-

adise, used to divide the market pretty evenly between them. Gome's stronghold is in northern China, while Paradise's 'Yolo' chain dominates in the affluent east.

However, with the move, the sector's second-largest chain Suning is to open 1,500 stores in 350 cities by 2010, with moving their headquarters to Shanghai, where Gome's business is comparatively quiet.

After the US-based electronics retail giant Best Buy announced it would acquire China's fourth-

largest home appliance retailer, Jiangsu Five Star Appliance Co. Ltd. in May, Chinese home appliance retailers are facing increasing pressure. The merger implies Chinese retailers are stepping up to the fight against foreign competition.

Gome's chairman Huang Guangyu, who topped the *China Rich List* last year, will take 51.2 percent of the merged company's stake, with China Paradise's chairman Chen Xiao taking 12.5 percent. Huang will be the chairman, with Chen as the chief executive officer.

According to the agreement, the merger should be completed before November, by when China Paradise will withdraw from the Hong Kong Stock Exchange.

Dazhong Appliances, China's fourth largest in the sector, has 73 outlets in Beijing and 60 percent of the local market. China Paradise signed an agreement with Dazhong to acquire 78 percent of Dazhong in a year's time. Chen said the merger with Gome is not an obstacle in China Paradise's acquisition of Dazhong.

Kuwait joins the largest oil refinery project

Shanghai, July 25 (Interfax) – Sinopec, China's top oil refiner, is given the final go-ahead for its joint venture oil refinery with the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation on Tuesday, said a spokesman for Sinopec Guangzhou Petrochemical (SGP).

"We have heard the approval," Lu Jianming, the spokesman of SGP, told Interfax.

SGP was entrusted with the project, located in Guangzhou's Nanshan District, by the parent company, Sinopec.

The Sino-Kuwait Oil Refinery is designed with an annual oil output of 12-15 million tons, and will involve a total investment of US\$5 billion. It could become the largest Sino-foreign joint venture in the country so far, overtaking the petrochemical complex in Huizhou, co-invested by CNOOC and Shell at a cost of US\$4.3 billion.

PetroChina, the listed vehicle of CNPC, China's largest oil company, originally signed the preliminary agreement with Kuwait for the project.

But due to the dominance of Sinopec in the southern market, Sinopec successfully lobbied the government to be involved in the project, Liang Chengyu, the president of the Guangdong Chamber of Oil and Gas, told Interfax in April.

Lu told Interfax last month that SGP, Sinopec's main refining unit in southern China, had submitted an initial feasibility report for the project to Beijing in May.

China and Kuwait signed a memorandum of understanding on the refinery last December.

CHEGADAS				ARRIVA		
Empresa	Vôo n.	Hora Prev.	Hora Conf.	Procedência	Observações	Remarks
Airline	Flight n.	Sched. Time	Expect. Time	Origin	CANCELLED	CANCELLED
TRP7031	14:10			BRASILIA		
URG2071	14:10			BRASILIA		
URG2105	14:20			PORTO ALEGRE		
TAM3410	14:30			PORTO ALEGRE		
URG991				SAO PAULO		
URG231				SAO PAULO		
URG211				CURITIBA		
URG212				VITORIA		
TAM313				B. HORIZONTE		
TAM3041				SAO PAULO		

Farewell, Varig

A passenger walks by a departure board showing the cancellation of most of Varig's flights Thursday in Galeao airport in

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Varig, the oldest Brazilian air company, was sold to Varig Logistica (VarigLog), its former

subsidiary, for US\$24 million this week, to avoid possible bankruptcy.

(AFP Photo)

QDII receive US\$4.8 bln quotas

Beijing, July 26 (IANS) – China granted overseas investment quotas of US\$4.8 billion to three qualified domestic institutional investors.

According to the announcement from the State Administration of Foreign Exchange (SAFE), the Bank of China, the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China and the mainland subsid-

iary of the Bank of East Asia have been approved to buy the foreign exchange for overseas investment.

The three banks received investment quotas of \$2.5 billion, \$2 billion and \$300 million respectively from SAFE.

China Construction Bank, Bank of Communications and Hongkong & Shanghai Banking

Corp. have also submitted their QDII quota applications, which is examined by SAFE.

Besides QDII, China launched the QFII (qualified foreign institutional investor) programme in 2003, allowing foreign institutional investors such as UBS, Deutsche Bank and Citigroup to engage in the securities business on the Chinese mainland.

China to be 3rd-largest US export market

Shanghai, July 26 (AP) – China is set to overtake Japan this year as America's third-largest export market, an American trade official said Wednesday.

US exports to China grew 36.5 percent in the first five months this year, Under Secretary for Interna-

tional Trade Franklin L. Lavin told reporters during a visit to China's business hub of Shanghai.

"My prediction is, by the end of this year, China will be the United States' third largest export market, surpassing Japan, if this trend continues," Lavin said.

America's top export market is Canada, with Mexico second. China is currently in fourth place, taking in US\$41 billion of U.S. exports last year.

Lavin said export growth encompassed "everything from soybeans to Boeing."

Half foreign property capital goes to Beijing

Beijing, July 23 (Reuters) – Half of the foreign direct investment in China's property market has been poured into Beijing's new high-rise buildings, said an analyst from international property adviser Debenham Tie Leung (DTZ).

The overwhelming majority of foreign real estate investments have been concentrated in Beijing

and Shanghai the latter of which claimed 43 percent of the foreign investment, said Nicholas Cho, director of DTZ's investment department.

About 7 percent of the investment went to smaller cities including Dalian and Harbin in northeast China, Wuhan in central China and Nanjing, capital of east China's Jiangsu Province.

Cho said Beijing eclipsed Shanghai because the capital offered bigger deals. Morgan Stanley recently signed a deal in Beijing worth 50 million U.S. dollars and Merrill Lynch has cooked up a property investment deal worth 30 million dollars in downtown Beijing.

In total, foreign investors acquired 4.5 billion U.S. dollars

worth of property in China in the first quarter, a surge of 32 percent over the figure for entire 2005, according to DTZ's release.

The property advisor said due to Chinese government's regulation efforts foreign investment would flow into real estate development projects rather than property purchases in China in the future.

Air China to issue 2.7 bln A-shares

Shanghai, July 26 (Reuters) – Air China Ltd., the country's flag carrier, has won regulatory approval to issue up to 2.7 billion A-shares for a listing on the Shanghai Stock Exchange.

The Shanghai share offer is likely to raise around 8.1 billion yuan (US\$1 billion).

Air China said the new A-shares would be priced not lower than 90 percent of the average closing price of its Hong Kong-listed H-shares. The H-shares closed at HK\$3.44 on Wednesday.

American Airlines seeking Dallas-Beijing route

Fort Worth, Texas, July 20 (AP) – American Airlines, the largest US carrier, is seeking permission for a second route between Dallas and Beijing, after the Chicago-Shanghai route, and hopes to offer daily nonstop service beginning in March.

The bid pits Fort Worth-based American against Houston-based Continental Airlines Inc., which is seeking approval to fly from Newark, NJ, to Shanghai, and is operating Newark-Beijing route.

Bupa runs health-check to Beijing

London, July 23 (businessonline.co.uk) – Britain's largest healthcare provider, Bupa, is planning to enter the Chinese market by first sending a team to Beijing in search of entry opportunities.

The move is the latest in an aggressive expansion strategy by the not-for-profit provident association that will also turn its attention to another emerging market – India.

Oki opens Beijing sales office

Beijing, July 26 (Business-Wire) – Oki Electric Industry and OKI Printing Solutions are set to expand their Asian operations by launching a sales office in Beijing.

The new office, Oki Trading (Beijing) Co. Ltd., has already begun operations to meet growing demand in the printer market, and has been earmarked to provide a wider range of Oki products in the future.

BASF to expand Nanjing project

Beijing, July 27 (redorbit.com) – China Petroleum & Chemical Corporation (SINOPEC) and the world chemical industry leader BASF has signed a US\$500 million agreement to expand their joint chemical project in Nanjing, capital of east China's Jiangsu Province.

The site, namely BASF-YPG Co. Ltd., is one of the largest Sino-foreign petrochemical joint venture projects in China with a total investment of US\$2.9 billion in the first phase.

Cooking oil cars turn the table on high fuel prices

"A growing number of Americans are setting up mini-refineries in their homes to produce biodiesel, a fuel made from waste cooking oil which is cleaner and cheaper than the petrol sold in gas stations." Virginie Montet from AFP Washington reports.

There are two ways to get on the biodiesel bandwagon. "Either you change the engine and just put in waste oil, which would not be strictly legal in the United States, or you can modify the fuel into bio-diesel, which is legal and works in any diesel car."

According to the National Biodiesel Board, biodiesel production has tripled since 2004 to 75 million gallons (280 million liters) last year.

In comparison, US consumption of traditional diesel fuel extracted from crude oil stands at 60 billion gallons (227 billion liters) per year.

"Biodiesel has Hollywood backers like actress Julia Roberts and Morgan Freeman, is sung about by country star Willie Nelson, but also meets the political correctness of the American right wing which has made the campaign against imported oil a mantra," the story says.

The 73-year-old songwriter has launched his own brand of the fuel, dubbed "BioWillie," and believes that biodiesel is the way to go.

Agence France-Presse (AFP)

Comments

It's a good idea, but come on; we use millions of barrels of oil per day in America. Do you think



Used restaurant cooking oil is pumped into giant holding containers where the oil will sit in the heat of the sun, separating waste sludge from the oil, in Brinklow, Maryland. The biodiesel fuel made in the process will be used for automobiles and buses.

AFP Photo

we produce millions of barrels of waste cooking oil per day?

— farmall h

Why don't you crazies have something positive to say? The best thing is that the people have the means to break the back of foreign oil and Haliburton. When congress complains send them all a bicycle. Let's break the back of Big Oil. The means have been available all along.

— aella rex

What are the waste products of biodiesel production, and how do you get rid of them?

— mutatron

Now, home-brewing diesel is starting to become such a business that the companies that collect waste grease are starting to feel the pinch. The rendering companies in many states have gotten together and made it illegal to collect waste grease without a renderers' license. So much for good old American do-it-yourself creativity.

— spacestevie

It's time to regulate bio-diesel making.

This all sounds so fine and selfless. Folks on a remote farm home cooking up biodiesel for

school buses. No problem. What about the guy making biodiesel downstairs in the high-rise condo's parking garage? What about a home garage in the middle of a block of row houses?

I'm waiting for the first biodiesel fires to break out in San Francisco's South of Market and the Mission Districts due to this, or even a minor explosion. If we're lucky, they'll only take out a building or two.

— pnkearns

Restaurants will begin selling the cooking oil soon. The price will escalate, soon after.

And the advantages go away----Poof!!!, gone.

— nopenacea2004

Are you kidding me!!! There will NEVER be a shortage of GREASE in America, considering how much fat Americans produce and consume.

— benttvproductions

I'll bet these folks haven't told their home insurance agent they're mixing flammable ingredients in or around their house.

— not my fathers usa

Open some stations!!! I'll buy anything that isn't pumped in here from the dang Middle East where we are helping to fund terrorists....

— whatrukidding

Biodiesel and 'Willydiesel' are fine ideas, and certainly should be pursued, but are ultimately pretty meaningless in terms of overall energy requirements of this country. It's a great story though, and obviously it makes people feel good. Now they can cram French fries down their throats!

— Cedarcreek38

We need more diesel cars! Throughout Europe and for years, Europeans have been driving diesels. Every manufacturer has a diesel product. Why aren't any of them available in the US market? How about we start looking at diesels again?

— jsbreaux

Fantastic. Instead of restaurants paying to have their grease picked up, they will be able to make a few pennies a gallon for it. Everybody wins.

— feces flinging monkeys

Weekly topics

New York Times (US)

1. Group objects to Bush's 'signing statements'
2. Top Iraqi's White House visit shows gaps with U.S.
3. Nations reluctant to commit troops to Lebanon
4. Israel finding a difficult foe in Hezbollah
5. Senate restricts abortion option for young girls

Daily Telegraph (UK)

1. 'A second shot rang out. Both men were dead. Now I could never be known as Frank Sinatra's daughter'
2. Cry of the enfant sauvage
3. Divorce costs husband the estate his has since winning it from Henry V
4. Brilliant men always betray their wives
5. Woods honors father with dominant show

Newsweek (US)

1. Lebanon: fear, anxiety in bombed tyre
2. The lucky evacuate Lebanon in comfort
3. Can a UN force keep peace in Lebanon?
4. How Bush makes enemies
5. Why US is letting Lebanon bleed

Sydney Morning Herald (Australia)

1. Pregnant Rowe falls down stairs
2. Graphic ads lead counterattack on smoking
3. Harbour Bridge gridlock after crash
4. Let slip the blogs of woe
5. Pokie room stabbing 'unprovoked'

Toronto Star (Canada)

1. Praise be to our patties
2. Zoo elephants mourn matriarch
3. Last Avro Canada pilot dies at 89
4. 'Jimmy K' mulls own Liberal leadership bid
5. A pioneer's painful decision

(By Jiang Xubo)

Addiction in families: Your experiences? Thoughts?

By Patrick Cooper (USA Today)

"A USA TODAY/HBO nationwide poll of adults April 27 – May 31 found that one in five said they had an immediate relative who at some point had been addicted to alcohol or drugs," reporter Rita Rubin writes in USA TODAY.

"That means roughly 40 million American adults with a spouse, parent, sibling or child battling addiction. That doesn't count the millions of children living with an addicted parent."

Comments:

My brother refuses to admit he has a drinking problem. He lost a six-figure job in 2000 and hasn't worked since, living off his retirement savings under

my Mom's roof. Hides his booze in the garage and pours it into other non-booze containers so it looks like he is not drinking. My offers to help have been refused and Mom continues to enable him. I cannot convince anyone in the family that inpatient treatment is required. What to do next?

— JC

Addiction is a parent's worst nightmare. Our daughter is 27, and has been sober for 18 months this time. She had 3+ years before and relapsed to find herself in jail.

— Nancy M.

My former husband stole, threatened, berated, repeatedly lied, destroyed property, sold our

things, tried to kick down my front door, attempted to run me off the road in his car and otherwise terrify me. He continues to try to get money from me. Cocaine changed him into a DEMON.

— tr

My son recently died of a heroin overdose. I can't believe the amount of pain and suffering my family is going through. I have constant flashbacks about when I found him. He came back from Texas a month and a half ago, got a job and everything was great. He loved being around family and everyone loved to be around him. He went out on a Sunday afternoon and the demons got

him and wouldn't let go. A big part of our lives is now lost.

— Frank

My wife is an alcoholic. She drinks almost every night. She has no time for me or the kids. All my holidays and family memories are ruined as a result of her drinking. I've confronted her several times but she only ignores me.

I have wanted to leave her for years but fear I will lose my kids. Not sure how the divorce laws work but I feel the kids are better off with me.

— Fed Up

These addicts have a disease that is much a like a tumor. If you just cut off the blood supply, the tumor shrinks.

Many addicts would just dry up and blow away if well intentioned friends, family, employers, the government.. would just cut off the money supply that sustains their daily needs, like food, shelter, health care, etc.

— the truth hurts

My ex-husband became a crack addict at the age of 50 after meeting an addict prostitute. He threw away an 18 year marriage, his relationship with his son, and his job. He eventually lost everything. Now he has diabetes (hastened by the drug use), and Hepatitis C and no one left in his life who cares what happens to him.

— Frances Piermani
(By Jiang Xubo)



By Jackie Zhang

After a month of watching their heroes showing them how to do it (and how not to!) in this summer's World Cup, it's time for kids in Beijing to get their kit on and show what they can do.

Young footie fans can now register to participate in the Coaching Academies and Junior Coaching Courses provided by ClubFootball (Wanguoqunxing Football Club in Chinese).

The Coaching Academies course, which is designed for kids aged between four and six, kicked off at Eton International School on Tuesday. A group of kids, both foreign and Chinese, played football under the guidance of an UEFA (the Union of European Football Association) qualified coach.

"Very young children find it difficult concentrating, so the coaches need to be patient," said David Niven, chief operations officer of ClubFootball. "The coach is there to help improve their ball skills and also to teach them how to cooperate with others."

Junior Coaching Courses for children aged between 14 and 18 will kick off on Monday. These courses will be held outdoors on

Coaching sessions for young footie fans

artificial pitches at the East Gate of Chaoyang Park, between July 31 and August 11.

"We have four full-time English FA (Football Association) and UEFA qualified coaches from the UK and one part-time Chinese coach to teach the children," said Niven.

"The emphasis is very much on participation and on building a love for the game, rather than grooming the next generation of star players. A passion and enthusiasm for football is much more important than talent. If you love the game, you deserve a coach, a uniform and a team. Our programs aim to provide this, in a healthy and fun context."

All courses are held in an English language environment, and this is something Niven feels should make the courses additionally attractive to Chinese parents.

At the end of all courses, kids receive a team photograph, a commemorative certificate, and a player profile which outlines their progress and picks out areas to improve in future. Courses cost approximately 60 yuan per session. For more information, and to register, call 64170495, mail coaching@wanguoqunxing.com or see www.clubfootball.com.cn.



David Niven with kids

Photos provided by Digitouch

Hutong to Highrise: or how Beijing went sky high

By Chen Shasha

The Hutong to Highrise project, initiated by Carrie Clyne from the US, held its first exhibition in China on July 22 in Dashanzi. Nearly 40 pictures taken by Hutong residents were on show, together with stories of Hutong life.

It is just the beginning. Carrie used the exhibition to introduce new recruit Scott Moskowitz, "Scott will make a video documentary of the Hutongs over the following months," she said.

The Hutong to Highrise project, which began in March, has attracted the support of locals – both Chinese nationals and those who have made Beijing their adopted home. Julie Hackenbrach, who came to China in 2001 and acted as director of photography in the project, said she had been interested in the Hutongs for a long time. "Hutongs are a symbol of Beijing, which cannot be seen in other cities like Shanghai or Shenzhen," she said.

Many Hutong residents came to the exhibition, some of whom had been given cameras and asked to take photos of their daily life in the Hutongs during the past five months. "I was greatly interested in the project when Carrie and her team came to talk to me," said Ma Jingjing, who lives with her father in Xiting Hutong in Chongwen. Ma and her father had three pictures on show in the exhibition.

Soccer star's career hinges on three month lay-off

By He Jianwei

Football star Ousmane Bangoura is hoping a three month convalescence will be enough for him to retain the sight in his right eye. After a successful operation in Peking University Third Hospital, the Chinese Football Association announced the state of Bangoura's injury at its briefing on July 24.

The CFA is keeping close contact with the hospital and the recovery of Bangoura's retina is understood to be proceeding according to plan.

The CFA appealed to all professional soccer players and coaches to each donate 1,000 yuan to Bangoura. Reports stated that Shenyang Jinde's Dutch coach Martin Koopman donated US\$3,000, and that most players gave over 1,500 yuan. Bangoura was injured when he was accidentally kicked in the head by rival player Lu Gang. Lu donated 6,000 yuan.

Beijing's wine revolution

By Tom Mackenzie

If you had asked for wine in Beijing two years ago the chances are you would have been handed a cheap bottle of throat burning *baijiu*. Now, you are just as likely to be offered a 2001 Californian cabernet sauvignon.

With a wine market that has grown 50 percent in the last year alone, the opening of specialist wine bars from Haidian to Chaoyang, the setting up of wine clubs and societies and profit hungry importers shipping in up to 500 different labels from across the globe, Beijing is undergoing something of a wine revolution.

"At our first organized event last December six people turned up," said Gabriel Suk, founder of Beijing Wine Club. "At the last event there were more than 50 people, Chinese and foreign. It just blew up, we are amazed at how popular it has become."

Charles Treutenaere, a sales supervisor for Summerville, a wine importer and distributor, has seen his company increase sales by 70 percent this year alone. "The wine market in Beijing is moving incredibly quickly," he said. "We've been amazed at the response."

Turn the clock back just a couple of years and Beijing's wine scene painted a very different picture. Wine lists were limited to top end eateries with selections limited to a handful of unremarkable French imports. The number of wine importers could be counted on one hand and there were no wine clubs.



Drinking a toast to Beijing's wine revolution – Lizzie Coles and a friend at Beijing Wine Club Photo provided by Beijing Wine Club

"Things have really started to take off in the last three years," said wine expert John Gai, who owns Palette Wines in Shunyi. "There are different reasons for this. There is the increase in wealth, and there's the increasing western lifestyle and travel to Europe, the US and Australia. There is also an increasing number of expats living in Beijing and they influence this trend."

Charles believes another important factor is stimulating Beijing's wine revolution – the 2008 Olympic Games.

"The market is moving very fast because of the rapidly growing economy and of course the upcoming Olympic Games," he said. "More and more restaurants and hotels are opening up in preparation for the Olympics so there's a

need for wine and nice wine lists. When we started out in Beijing seven years ago we had a portfolio of about 10 wines. We now have a portfolio of over 500 which is expected to increase by a further 100 by the end of the year."

But it's not just foreign visitors and expats who are driving this demand, Chinese drinkers are becoming increasingly wine savvy. And according to John, they fall into two groups – middle-aged slurpers and white-collar connoisseurs.

"The first group tend to drink wine at banquets and business meetings but will follow it with any other kind of alcohol," he said. "They tend to go for Chinese brands like Great Wall or Dynasty. Then there are the young professionals, white-collar workers with cash to

splash. They tend to go for better quality foreign brands and care more about value for money."

Import companies like Summerville will undoubtedly hope that first group start to follow the second. They have set up training programs in restaurants and hotels to teach staff about wine in the hope that a greater understanding among the Chinese will further boost the market.

"This is not a mature market yet," said Charles, "so we have a long-term view. We are very positive about the future but we have to work a lot on the wine culture and educating people about wine."

John predicts that Beijing's wine revolution is set to continue – something he is only too happy about. "The quality of wines in Beijing is increasing and the diversity is improving," he said. "That will continue and that only has to be a good thing."

John Gai's top wine spots:

Alameda. Good wine, reasonably priced. Address: Sanlitun Beijie, Chaoyang. Tel: 6417 8084

Tapas Spanish Bar and Restaurant. Good for Spanish wines. Address: Sanlitun Beijie, in the Nali Mall. Tel: 6417 8038.

Aria. Great selection but be prepared to dig deep. Address: 2/F China World Hotel, Chaoyang District. Tel: 6505 2266

Palette Vino. Diverse selection and great value for money. Go to www.palettewines.cn

French entrepreneurs find opportunities in China

By Han Manman

Over 100 French young entrepreneurs finished a week long visit to China today.

According to the French embassy, the delegation, with an average age of 28, was divided into three teams to

visit Beijing, Shanghai, Nanjing and other cities based on their industry of focus. Most of the members had never been to China before, and they came to find out about China's business opportunities, and learn its market opera-

tions and culture to establish a foundation for future cooperation with Chinese partners.

The delegation is part of the largest ever youth exchange program between the French and Chinese governments. Under the program, more than

400 French citizens, aged 18 to 35, will come to China from June 1 to November 30, including French artists, entrepreneurs, scientists and political leaders. The same number of young Chinese will go to France next year.



Dance Xayamaca on show

Photo by Chen Shasha

The sounds of Jamaica to take over the world park

By Chen Shasha

The 'Exciting Jamaica' festival, held by the Jamaican embassy, will run until August 1 in the world park. Then the embassy is to organize a celebration ceremony for the 44th anniversary of Jamaican independence on August 2.

This is a brand new festival for China, with two talented groups, Dance Xayamaca and C Sharp coming over from Jamaica for the event. "They are young, but best represent Jamaican modern culture", claimed Wayne McCook, ambassador of Jamaica. Dance Xayamaca group are an all-female dance group who per-

form modern and Caribbean dance. They are trained in skills ranging from classical ballet to the highly sought after afro-modern Cuban technique. In 1997, they performed at a world cup qualifying match between Mexico and Jamaica. C-Sharp, a five-man band whose fresh, original sound has been called one of the most exquisite amalgamations of musical talents that Jamaica has seen in a long time, represented the island at the Caribbean Festival of the Arts in 2003 and then traveled around the world.

If you'd like to attend, take the No 959 and 909 bus to the world park.

Breakfast with Commerce Under Secretary Frank Lavin

By Han Manman

On the invitation of the American Chamber of Commerce and US-China Business Council (USCBC), the US Department of Commerce Under Secretary for International Trade, Frank Lavin, will come to Beijing next week to give a series of speeches.

He will be in Beijing to address a number of ongoing market access and compliance issues with the Chinese government, as well

as to explore recent statements by the Chinese government on industrial policy and China's mergers and acquisitions.

Lavin oversees the International Trade Administration (ITA), an agency of 2,500 employees stationed worldwide and responsible for developing US trade policy, identifying and resolving market access issues, and coordinating US trade advocacy efforts on behalf of US business.

Professional training for sales

By Han Manman

The Australian Chamber of Commerce and ASK Learning jointly conducted half-day seminars on professional sales skills yesterday. The training focused on transactional and consultative selling techniques and skills. The seminars attracted businessmen from diverse industries.

The training covered everything from the structure of the consultative call to under-

standing a customer's situation and needs, as well as questioning and listening skills and some role-play of consultative selling skills.

The speaker, Jack Zhang, is a senior training consultant in ASK Learning. The group was formed in 1997 and specializes in sales training for telecommunications carriers. He has delivered over 100 training and consulting programs for a range of world famous clients.

Egypt celebrates 50 years of Chinese friendship

By Jackie Zhang

A celebration party was held Monday evening at the Mysterious Egypt theme park at Chaoyang Park by the Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt for the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relation between Egypt and China.

The Egyptian ambassador Mr. Mahmoud Allam and Li Zhaoxing, the Chinese Foreign Affairs Minister, delivered speeches and awarded around 20 people for making contributions to Sino-Egyptian relations.

Egyptian male artists showed off Sufi dancing wearing traditional heavy skirts.

British chamber of commerce launches shuttlecocks

By Chen Shasha

More than 100 staff from companies of the British Chamber of Commerce in China (BCCC) will join the first Badminton Tournament by the BCCC on July 29.

The event is themed 'Share Our Passion and Make New Friends', and aims to promote fitness and to give a platform for the communication between members of the BCCC network, according to Eva Zhou, organizer of the event. The competition will follow a best of three matches system, and includes Mixed Groups, Men's Doubles, Women's Doubles and Mixed Doubles.

The competition will be held in the gym at Si'de Park in Chaoyang.

Correction: About the Beijing Ladies' Golf Club's donation story on July 7's issue, the total amount BLG raised 80,000 yuan, with the hope of doubling it next year.



Radio operators simulate massive quake in heart of Beijing

By Chu Meng

The second International Amateur Radio Emergency Rescue (China) Competition will be held this weekend at the Wild Duck Wetland Reservation in the northern outskirts of Beijing.

Supported by the National Aviation and Wireless Model Sports Administration Center, the competition will simulate a seven-degree earthquake hitting the city. Seven Chinese teams and two teams from Germany and France will try to 'rescue' their citizens, and reestablish telecommunications network

across the city after the break down of normal means such as radio and TV stations and the Internet.

"Remember the earthquake on July 4? It gave many Beijingers a big shock although it was only 5.1 on the Richter scale. It reminded us of the importance of a comprehensive search and rescue infrastructure in the city," said Xue Hong yesterday, a Chinese team member. "Radio communication often surprises people with its extraordinary rescuing capacity in accidents and natural disasters."

What is Amateur Radio? Amateur radio is a community of people

that use radio transmitters and receivers to communicate with other amateur radio operators. They call themselves ham radio operators or simply 'hams'.

Xue tried to explain the origin of this funny name. "The origin of this nickname is for all practical purposes lost. Although some people still speculate about, few agree and even fewer care. Amateur radio operators proudly call themselves 'hams' and nobody knows why. There are about 600 thousand in the United States."

Ham operators are licensed

by their governments and enjoy far more privileges than 'Citizen's Band' radio operators. With these privileges come responsibilities and rules for the operation of an amateur radio station.

Specifically, there are a few things that hams are not allowed to do, Xue emphasized. Hams are not allowed to do anything with their radios for profit. Meanwhile, Ham radio operators are not allowed to 'broadcast' to the public. This means that ham radio transmissions are meant to be received by other ham radio operators only.

**Not just another student
snapper...honest**

By Chen Shasha

"Take a photo of me!" "Please, it's my turn now!" Dozens of people, old and young, gathered at the edge of Liangma river, next to the Lufthansa Shopping Center, waiting for their photos to be taken by Juergen Staack from Germany on Wednesday.

Juergen, an art student from the Academy of Fine Arts in Dusseldorf, came all the way from Germany to Beijing to take photos of Beijingers for an exhibition he is holding in Boston this September. "I'm looking to take up to 80 pictures of people, no matter what jobs they do or what age they are," he said.

Last year, the student snapper exhibited his photos taken in France on a street wall in New York. A manager of a gallery liked them so much that he invited him to hold an exhibition in Boston. "I like showing people living in a different culture," Juergen said, as he explained why he was traveling around the world with his camera. He chose China as his only Asian destination, describing Beijing as "a unique mix of modern and traditional culture."

On his last day in Beijing, Juergen walked around and stopped at the Liangma River, near an old bridge and many tall buildings. Carrying a large case with big cameras, various kinds of flashes and tripod stands of different sizes, Juergen soon drew attention from passers-by. Lots of people gathered around him and watched but few asked for their photos to be taken.

"How much is a photo?" "Will he cheat us or try to rip us off?" they asked. Juergen promised to give them copies of the photos for free the next day.



Kuespert Klaus from Germany won gold for his martial arts skill.

Photo provided by Chinese Proficiency Competition

Students show off their knowledge of all things Chinese

By Chen Shasha

Over 100 people from across the world showed off their knowledge of all things Chinese over the weekend.

Han SolHyang from South Korea, Abigail Southerland from the US, who danced a traditional Xinjiang dance and Kuespert Klaus from Germany, who performed martial arts, all won gold medals.

They trumped over 100 people picked from thousands from across Asia, Africa, Europe and the US who had applied to take part in the fifth Chinese Proficiency Competition for Foreign College Students. During the three-day competition, they wowed the judges with their Chinese language skills and knowledge of culture, including Chinese songs, dances, operas, musical instruments, calligraphy, painting, paper cutting and martial arts.

Ruth Njeri, a competitor from the Confucius institute of Kenya, said she would never forget the day when she was declared

winner of the preliminary contest and told she would have the chance to travel to Beijing for the final competition. "It's unbelievable because I've only been learning Chinese for five months," she said.

All the participants had Chinese names. Adam Benjamin Paul, a German New Zealander called himself Sima Jie, because of his admiration for Sima Qian, a famous writer and historian during the Han dynasty. Amanda Jane Garrett, from the US, called herself Ma Lihua. "Ma is a horse, and I belong to the year of the horse, and Lihua means a pear blossom, because every year around my birthday, the pear trees begin to bloom," she explained. As a student of nursing from Oklahoma State University, Amanda gave a speech on traditional Chinese diet and nutrition.

All participants left Beijing to visit Yunnan province this week. The 6th Chinese Proficiency Competition for Foreign College Students will be held next year.

Dutch designers reveal plan for Chinese "utopia"

By Chu Meng

FREEZE H2O, an exhibition on floating buildings that responds to the rising need to achieve a non-political space in urban Chinese cities was held by a group of Dutch socialists in Beijing this week at the Millennium Museum.

Neville Mars, leading the group, wanted to share his thoughts. "Having tested all possible solutions for a liveable urban society in 2020, the last remaining option is leaving behind the mainland and the confinements of existing nations, to move to the oceans. Thus, you have to understand the relationship between humans and oceans," he said.

The group, the Dynamic City Foundation (DCF) is a Dutch-based NGO. As an international research and design platform, it has been investigating China's rapidly changing urban environment for the last 10 years. Neville said their objective was to build 400 new cities by the year 2020, as formulated by the former Chinese Minister of Civil Affairs.

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BEIJING TODAY

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Buying a home in Beijing



Is it a good idea to have a house in a hutong?

Photo by Louis Mi

By Annie Wei

An over-heating real estate market in many parts of the world and the huge growth potential of Beijing has made the city's real estate market a target for foreign as well as Chinese investors.

On Monday, the authorities released figures for foreign property investment in China. By the end of June, the growth rate of newly established real estate investment companies was 25.4 percent, and the growth rate of foreign companies or individuals who purchased commercial houses increased 100 percent compared in the same period last year.

Many real estate projects

have doubled in value in the past year. In Chaoyang District, projects like Palm Springs increased in value from around 9,000 yuan per square meter to around 18,000 yuan now. Peipei Guan, who lives in Tsinghua University, said Huaqingjiayuan (a project right next to Wudaokou subway, where there are many western bars and coffee shops) was originally priced at less than 5,000 yuan per square meter but has increased to more than 9,000 yuan now.

"My dad really regretted not investing in the development," said Guan. Her family currently own three apartments in Beijing.

Two weeks ago the authorities announced plans to curb foreign property investment in a bid to prevent the market overheating.

The new laws mean that foreign property investors are compelled to use their real names to register when buying residential properties. They are only allowed to buy residential housing for personal use. The law also stipulates that only foreign businesses with offices in China, or foreigners who have worked or studied in China for more than one year are allowed to buy property. It also said that Chinese from Hong Kong, Taiwan and Macao could only buy one property.

Things you should know before considering buying an apartment or house in Beijing:

1. Land use right agreement

Property owners in China do not own the land on which their homes are built. They own a Land Use Right Agreement inherited from the property developer or previous owners.

A Land Use Right Agreement can be owned for 70 years.

Developers regularly pay extra to extend the length of Land Use Right Agreement.

2. Location matters as an investment

Gary Wang, a Chinese American who has returned to the mainland has bought four apartments in Beijing and rents them all out to foreigners.

"The most important thing to remember when buying a property to rent is location, location, location", said Wang. He bought his properties in the Lido area, which is popular with expatriates. "It's a great location and was a good place to invest in at the time," he said.

3. Bank issues

David Warren, a British engineer living in the UK recently sent his friends in Beijing an email, asking how he would go about getting a mortgage to invest in Beijing's property market. He already has three properties in the UK and wants to invest in Beijing for his retirement.

Jia Wei, from the loan department of the Bank of East Asia said that the new policy would not have too much effect on foreign individuals who want to buy or mortgage an apartment or house in Beijing. "The buyer can come to our bank with his paperwork and apply for a mortgage," he said.

"The time taken to process the application will depend on where they intend to buy and the type of mortgage they want. Generally speaking, it is not complicated for foreigners who want to buy property in China any more."

ASK Beijing Today

1. Dennis Miller from the US asked: Where does that yogurt in those little cups come from - you know those clay cups with the paper on top that the little shops in the street all sell?

Although many things in Beijing have changed as a result of the city's speedy development, those ceramic pots of yogurt are holding fast. Twenty years ago it was the only kind of yogurt we had and the taste has not changed.

One pot costs around 1.5 yuan but you may be asked for an extra 0.5 yuan as a deposit for the ceramic pot. The used ceramic pots get reused and are sent back to the factory where they are cleaned and re-filled.

Most of the yogurt comes from small dairy farmers around Beijing. A popular brand is Fubang honey yogurt.

Beijing Today called Beijing Fubang Food Factory, one of the small manufacturers that produce clay pot yogurts. Staff said that sales had slumped in recent years as more people turn to new supermarket brands. They now sell just a few hundred pots per day.

2. Sam Howie from Hong Kong asked: Which Beijing hutongs are protected, and which will be torn down?

The exact number of hutongs in Beijing is not known. But there are historical records of hutongs in different times. By the end of the Ming Dynasty, there were over 600 hutongs, while in the Qing Dynasty, that figure grew to nearly 1,000. Until the mid-1920s, there were 1,330 hutongs in Beijing. Unfortunately, there are now less than 500 of them remaining in Beijing.

Local authorities say that plans to pull down original residences and build modern ones will no longer happen in areas of 'historical interest'.

According to Dongcheng District of Beijing Municipal Commission of Urban Planning, there are 25 areas in Beijing classed as 'historical culture protection areas.' Some buildings simply require renovation while others have to be torn down completely and residents moved.

Fourteen of the 25 'historical interest' areas are located in the old city, including Nanbei Changjie, Xihuanmen Dajia, Nanchizi and Beichizi, Donghuamen Dajie, Jinshan area, Di'anmen Dajie.

A further seven areas include Xisi Beitoutiao to Xisi Beibatiao, Dongsi hutongs, Nanluguxiang, and Shishahai areas. The remaining three areas are Qianmen, Dazhanlan and Xianyukou. For more exact information, contact one of the city's urban planning bureaus.

(By Annie Wei)

Buses to Beijing's beauty spots

By Chen Shasha

Three new bus routes to Beijing's western suburbs will open between tomorrow and October 10, with buses running every weekend.

The buses, leaving from six places across Beijing, will take passengers directly to three scenic spots in the outskirts, including Ling Mountain, Baihua Mountain and Longmen Gully. The three beauty spots are part of the Dongling & Baihua

mountain area, 29.2 kilometers long from north to south and 14.3 kilometers from east to west. Ling Mountain is over 2,000 meters high and is famous for its nature park, which is teaming with wild animals. The Baihua Mountain is known as Beijing's most beautiful mountain and is dotted with dozens of different flower species, while Longmen Gully is known for its stunning rock formations.

The cost of a bus ticket

to both Baihua Mountain and Longmen Gully will be 60 yuan per person, while a trip to Ling Mountain will cost 70 yuan per

person. The buses will leave from Beijing between 6:30 am and 8:00 am every Saturday and Sunday.

The buses depart from:

The north east part of Xuanwu Gate area, Xuanwu district
The west part of Hang Tian Bridge, Haidian district
The entrance of Pingguoyuan subway station, Shijingshan district
The cross bridge of Heping Street, Chaoyang district
The opposite side of Wudaokou hotel, Haidian district
The north east part of Qianmen area, Chongwen district

For details, call 67276666 or 87299990.

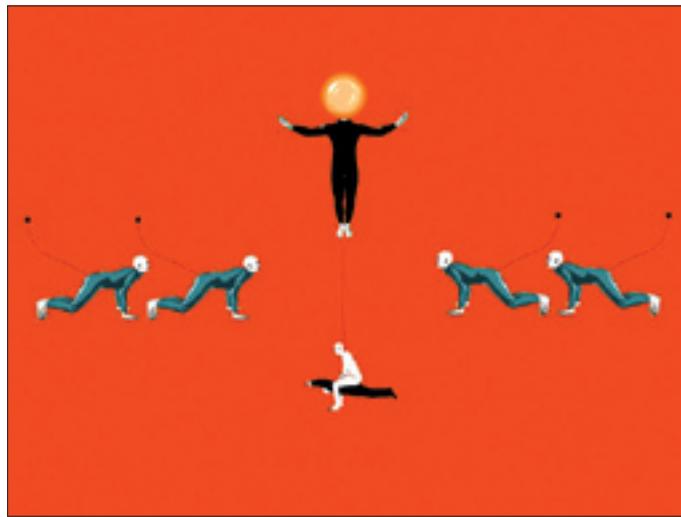


The sketches tell stories

By Gareth George

Wait Us Rich, 2005, the artist's first work available for acquisition by collectors, is a young man's take of the nouveau riche society. The artist conveys that world's excesses, energy, brashness and power. The images that make up the DVD in themselves are sufficient to portray the desires of new money but the combination with music, voice and text quadruples the power of the message. Just as this newly wealthy society with its great capacity for acquisition is aggressively continuing to push forward, grow and succeed at the fastest possible rate, the multimedia nature of Wu Junyong's work is equally intense, resonating with rhythm, absolute conviction and energy. The animation images show us what the new money wants and has. The audio and text accompaniment forces on us the determination that has made this new social class what it is and what it will continue to be – a unstoppable force.

– The Chinese Contemporary Gallery



Whirlybird has two. One hangs another

Molotov

Wu Junyong peels back the skin of the nouveau

Wu Junyong: video artist, animator and one of the most exciting visionaries of China's new avant garde. Wu combines sound, vision and text into a visceral cocktail of satire, pointing a mocking finger at society around him. Following the lead of the Chinese painters of the 1990s, Wu Junyong in a singular vision grabs the essence of today's wealthy China and throttles it.

Idraw my inspiration from my daily environment and my surroundings. But I don't reproduce them exactly. I see the world as quite surreal and these images come into my mind when I try to represent it in my work. I put my ideas straight into the computer and work with them from there.

My three videos are called *Wait Us Rich*, *Parade* and *Opera*. I did *Wait Us Rich* first, in 2005. It represents my view of contemporary society, the society I've grown up in and the only one I know. Chinese society now has a nouveau riche element. They want big brand labels and they have so much money they don't know what to do with it. The images are bold and brash and crude, because that's how I see China today. If it seems like a pop video, with the soundtrack and the graphical images, that's the kind of imagery I grew up with and it made sense to represent my world in this way. *Parade* and *Opera* are more personal; more introspective. They were both finished this year. I traveled through the countryside and the images that form *Parade* came to my mind. Some of the figures represent characters from traditional Chinese stories. The dunces' caps are of course a sign of mockery, but they also represent hypocrisy. You can see the hats again in *Opera*, but this video is more political. The movement of the figures and their sounds are like animals. This is a comment about our new corporate society.

In my sketches [water colors] you can see the same figures depicted in the videos, particularly *Parade* and *Opera*. They are like pages from a child's picture book, and like children, many of the figures are naked and vulgar. Each one tells a story. It's quite simple: here you see characters with their dunces' caps and rubber rings and sacks. They're going swimming. That's the story.

My work is quite jokey and mocking. I draw on traditional folk stories, but I also bring an anarchy to my representations of them that is simply the way I see things."

–Wu Junyong, the artist



A still from Wait Us Rich



Parade



A still with

cocktail riche



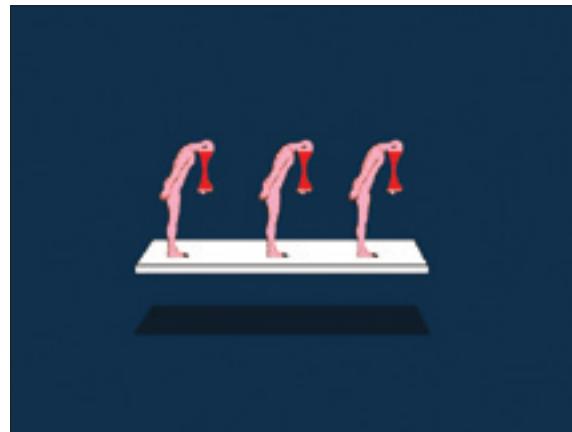
About the artist

Wu Junyong is 26 and graduated from New Media Arts Department of China Academy of Art in 2005. This was the first video art department in China and is widely regarded as the best. Wu has remained at the academy, in Hangzhou, as a professor. He has

come to the fore of the 'second generation of free Chinese artists' for his manipulation of images created by using Macromedia Flash. Wu's art is comical and satirical. *The Sky Has a Mouth* is his first solo exhibition in Beijing. The show features his first three commercial videos, still images and sketches. *The Sky Has a Mouth* will run from July 22 to September 17.

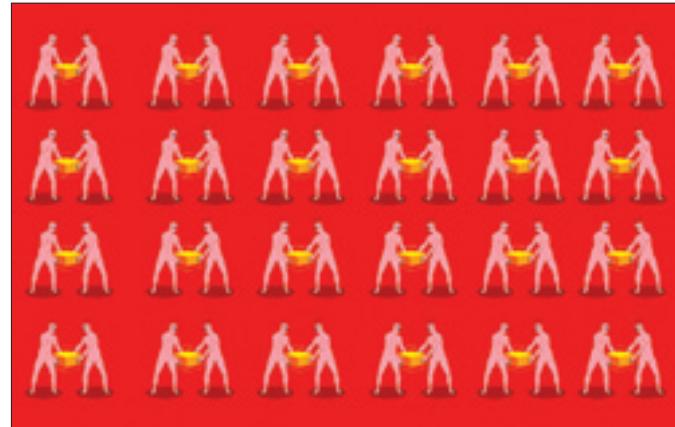


trademark dunces' caps



Parade

Photos provided by The Chinese Contemporary Gallery



Wait Us Rich

We are very excited by Wu Junyong. We wanted to put on his first Beijing solo show because we believe he really stands out from the new generation of Chinese artists. He's already been collected for good exhibitions, including the Shanghai Biennale under the curatorship of David Elliot [curator of the Mori museum in Japan.]

These are Wu's first three commercial videos, so we're here right at the beginning with the artist.

It may seem like a long running show for an artist who is currently breaking through, but we always run shows here a little longer. Our buyers are westerners who maybe come for a week. And they come once. We've been doing this for 10 years and we think this guy is really good, so we want as many buyers to see him as possible. Also with the Shanghai Biennale in September there'll be big groups of collectors coming over – the Tate gallery [in London] is coming, and they'll come to Beijing after the Biennale, and for Wu that's an opportunity that can't be missed.

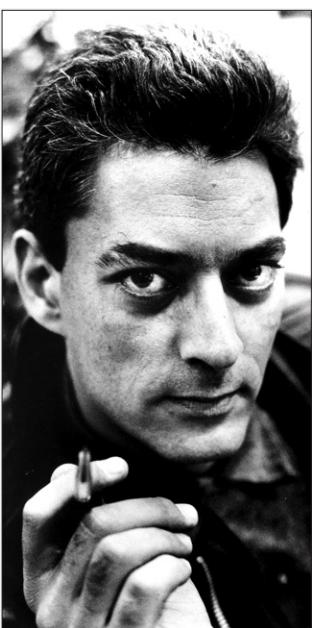
Wu is part of the second generation of free artists since the death of Mao. This generation are in their mid 20s, and the art captures some essence of its time. He has captured new China, particularly with *Wait Us Rich*. It's a young man's take on the new China that is all he knows. The other two are more personal, more surrealist. They have a relationship with Chinese traditions and colloquialism. But they have a link to the internet and the future too.

Surprisingly, the artist himself was not actually aware of the surrealist movement. I explained to him that Jean Cocteau [the artist] had once made a surrealist film called *Parade*. It even features circus actors trying to entice audience into a room, which is visually similar to Wu's *parade*. But it quickly became apparent that he had no idea about what I was talking about.

– Julia Colman, gallery owner and director

The exhibition will be in Chinese Contemporary until September 15
Where: Factory 798 Beijing, No 4 Jiu Xian Qiao Lu, Chaoyang
Open everyday 11am - 7pm
Tel: 8456 2421

The Book of Illusions



Paul Auster

By Paul Auster

Published by Henry Holt & Company

Review by W. R. Greer

Key themes: Loss, identity, weird-stuff-you-don't-understand**Synopsis:**

The Book of Illusions begins with college professor David Zimmer's life torn apart by the death of his wife and children in an airplane crash. He decides he needs an obsession to distract himself from his drinking and despair, so he researches and writes the definitive book about the life of silent-film actor Hector Mann, who disappeared after his last movie. Soon after, he receives a letter from a woman claiming to be Hector Mann's wife asking if he'd like to meet the subject of his book. So he sets off the search for a different life and the meaning of our life's works and whether we're defined by what we produce or the other way around. *The Minneapolis Star Tribune* says, "it's part of Auster's signature achievement, and an indication of his breadth as a novelist, that he so deftly leads readers through a tale that blends melodrama, farce, romance and tragedy."

Melodrama, farce, romance, tragedy? I could read my diary for that....

"Make no mistake about it, Paul Auster is a phenomenal writer. His prose dances through your mind, grabbing at images and emotions and ideas as you read and just when you think you know where he's going, he's off somewhere else and dragging you along with him. When I was done with the book, I wanted to read it again and deconstruct his words and see how he put it all together, much as David Zimmer did with Hector Mann's life and his movies."

— WR Greer,
reviews of books.com

Wow, let's all have a party for Paul! So, guest list...there'll be Greer, Auster...me, I guess...

"This is not a 'feel good' book and it's not a story that will keep you turning pages to see what happens next. If you want a book to challenge your thoughts and emotions and perspective on life, then I can recommend it highly. Just don't think you'll put it down with a satisfied smile on your face."

— WR Greer,
reviews of books.com

Message understood; satisfied smile removed. So, Paul Auster then. What's he trying to say? I mean REALLY?

"If a tree falls in a forest with nobody around, does it make a sound? At one point in his 10th novel, *The Book of Illusions*, Paul Auster briefly refers to this philosophical concept. If a man, however, lives a life that nobody else notices, did he really live? That's the real debate that he proposes with this novel."

— WR Greer,
reviews of books.com

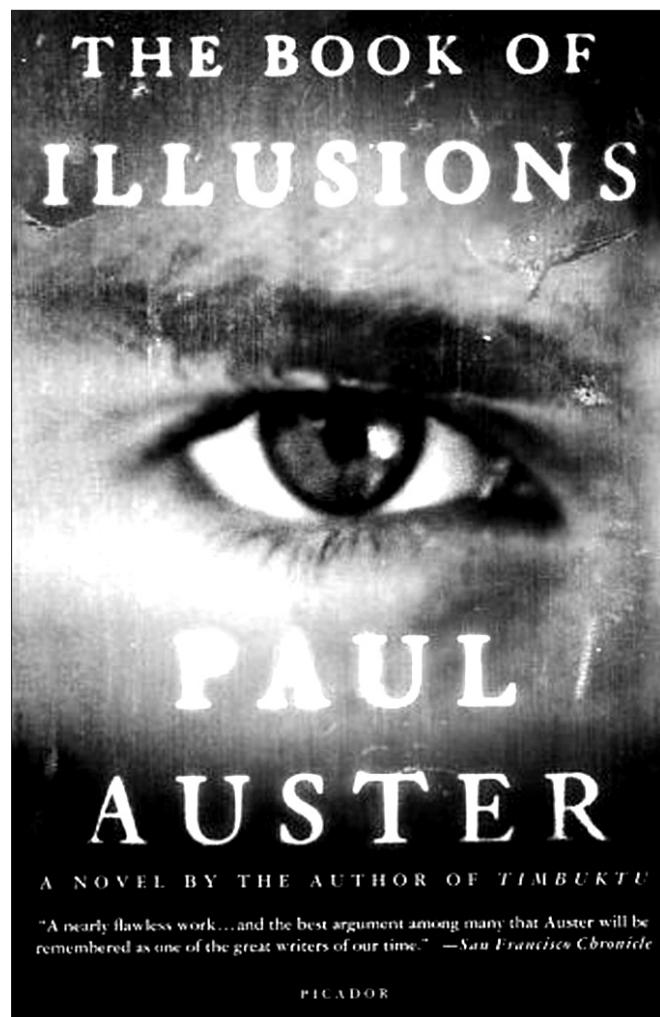
Oh wait, I know this! If the pope shits in the woods...no that's not it...what??

"For a long time, Paul Auster's novels were much more popular in France than in America. Perhaps this is because he sounds more convincing in French. 'Ecrivain de la megapole, de l'errance et du hazard, Paul Auster est devenu un auteur culte,' one Parisian blurb artist writes, catching the appeal in a way that his English speaking counterparts find difficult. Auster's fiction mixes metropolitan cool with stylish intellectualism — a combination no less enjoyable for the distinct whiff of bullshit it gives off."

— Theo Tait, London Review of Books

Thank God. Was beginning to think it was just me... I have a sneaking suspicion I could learn a thing or two from Mr Auster though. He seems very clever.

"Any aspiring writer who still believes that novels should 'show' and not 'tell' should read the subsequent 70 pages of bra-



vura telling."

— John Crowley, Washington Post

That sounds more like it. If my Grandma taught me nothing else, it was how to enjoy a rip roaring fire side yarn. And you never wanted her to 'show' anything either. Take my word for that.

"[And yet the book is] strangely without warmth. The gentle and humane art of the silent comedy, so highly praised here, reaches the heart directly and simply. The whole of this novel feels as though it were underlaid with a longing, impossible to fulfill, for that simplicity, at once evanescent and immortal."

— John Crowley, Washington Post

I hate silent comedy. There should be a law that says you can't use the word 'comedy' unless it actually makes people laugh. Now magic: whole different story. That's entertainment. David Copperfield, Paul Daniels...

"[This book is] a compendium of magic tricks — which, in a way, is what a novel amounts to. *The Book of Illusions* bristles with switched identities, vanishing acts, sudden feints and flourishes which the author plays off against one another in an elegant though often somber narrative."

— Anthony Quinn, The Guardian

I'm briefly interested again. Now tell me the book is incredibly exciting and

promise I won't get bored.

"[The novel does reach] an impasse. Raymond Chandler famously wrote that, when in doubt, a writer should 'have a man come through the door with a gun in his hand'. Auster tweaks the advice ever so slightly: he has a woman come through the door with a gun in her hand."

— Anthony Quinn, The Guardian

Guns are good. Style-wise, what will I find in Auster?

"Auster's echo-ridden style may encourage you to look for meanings that aren't there. On considering the names of the two central characters (Zimmer-Mann) I spent some time trying, in vain, to spot buried references to Bob Dylan."

— Anthony Quinn, The Guardian

Books have meanings? Since when?

"The novel could have been called *The Book of the Dead*, for the elegant words — reeled around absences — are the words of people who have died. We only learn to live, says Auster's narrator, when our backs are right up against the wall. You have to die first to know how to live."

— Nicci Gerrard, The Observer

OK, enough. I'm too busy re-reading my Mr Men books to try and decipher the hidden meaning behind Mr Strong's squareness. And the fact that he lives by egg alone. Auster, be gone! (By Gareth George)

Local shelf

The Great Drug War: And Radical Proposal That Could Make America Safe Again

By Arnold S. Trebach
MacMillan Publishing,
401 pages, 180 yuan

In this arresting minority report, the author argues that a kind of hysteria has swept the US about the use of marijuana, cocaine, heroin and other drugs. Trebach, a professor in the School of Justice at American University, characterizes as wild the claim that an "entire generation is being destroyed by illegal chemicals," pointing out that far greater damage is being done to the nation by two legal drugs, alcohol and nicotine.

Book of Dave

By Will Self
Penguin, 495 pages, 270 yuan

The protagonist, Dave, sadly regresses from an educated young boy in awe of his grandfather, to reluctant social chameleon, dropping his 'Hs' and loosening his belt for all day breakfasts as he fits in with cabbie culture to follow his dream of getting further into London, rather than, like his peers, the hell out. Before long, Dave has been driven mad.

Available:

Beijing Bookworm
Where: Building 4, Nan Sanlitun Road, Chaoyang
Tel: 6586 9507



Illustrations Now!

By Julius Wiedemann
Taschen, 544 pages, 360 yuan

This comprehensive guide showcases 200 of today's best commercial and editorial illustrators from over 50 countries; each entry highlights examples of recent work and includes the artist's contact information, favorite media, awards, clients, and work philosophy. Look no further for what works and who's who in the world of illustration: it's all here.

Available:

Timezone 8 Art books
Where: Jia 24-2 Meishuguan Dong Dajie, Dongcheng
Contact: 6400 4427
(By Wang Xiaowan)

All You Can Eat

By Chu Meng

Some people believe in fine dining. Others believe in mass dining! Quantity over quality is often their motto, as long as the quality is not too bad. And it is those people we are thinking about this week, where we raise the flag for the ultimate in culinary feasts, the all-you-can-eat buffet. Below are three Beijing restaurants we believe serve up some of the best buffets in town – help yourself!



Seafood Station at Café Cha

Photo provided by Café Cha

Tropical creations at Café Cha

By Chu Meng

Throughout August, the award-winning Singaporean Chef Wilsun Aurubind will present a mouth-watering array of authentic Southeast Asian dishes including Laksa, Mee Siam, Prawn Noodles at Café Cha in the Shangri-La Hotel.

The vibrant Café Cha restaurant, which has a stunning garden view, offers an exciting all day kitchen buffet, featuring favorite

Asian dishes, Italian and western specialties, Japanese sushi, sashimi and an abundance of seafood, Beijing duck, and Indian Tandoori cuisine. There is also a delicious selection of cakes and desserts – the raspberry and blueberry tarts should not be missed.

The hospitable and ever friendly Chef, Aurubind, recently became a father and spends a lot of time chatting with guests in

the dining area.

Café Cha

Opening times and prices:

Breakfast: (Daily) 6am-10am, 158yuan+15% service charge per person

Lunch: (Mon-Fri) 11:30am-2:30pm, 258yuan+15% service charge per person

Lunch: (Sat) 11:30am - 2:30pm, 298yuan+15% service charge per person

Where: Shangri-La Hotel, 29 Zizhuyuan Road, Haidian.

Dinner: (Mon-Thu, Sun)

5:30pm-9:30pm, 298yuan+15% service charge per person

Friday, Saturday Dinner Extravaganza & Sunday Brunch: 338yuan+15% service charge per person

428yuan+15% service charge per person

Tel: 6841 2211 ext. 2715

Indulge yourself at Grand Café

By Chu Meng

Grand Café opens around-the-clock so you can indulge your appetites after shopping 'till you drop in Wangfujing Commercial Street and Oriental Plaza Shopping Mall.

Grand Café is best showcased by its superb lunch and dinner buffets presenting the best of western and oriental flavors with genuine Japanese, Italian and Beijing home-style cooking. The key element of the open kitchen is a granite counter incorporating built-in hot plates where daily specials are presented and a grid-dle where chefs prepare salmon-filled pancakes and other items at guest's request. A complementing



Serving up a feast at Grand Café
Photo provided by Grand Café

oval shaped island bar displays assorted salads and appetizers, the freshest seafood on ice and a tempting selection of desserts and homemade ice creams.

Sesame pancakes with soft tofu and sautéed liver, noodles with braised pork, cucumber and sprouts, five-spice beef and *jiaozi* dumplings are some of the dishes with true old Beijing flavors that can be sampled. A chef is also on hand to prepare the famous Peking duck whose crispy skin is skillfully sliced and served in thin pancakes accompanied by spring onion and bean paste.

Grand Café

Opening times and prices:
Breakfast buffet: (Mon-Fri)

6:30am-10:30am

(Sat-Sun) 6:30am-11am

213yuan+15% service charge per person

Lunch buffet: (Mon-Fri) 11:30am-2:30pm

(Sat-Sun) 11:30am-3pm

218yuan+15% service charge per person

Dinner buffet: (Sun-Thu) 5:30pm-10pm

(Fri-Sat) 5:30pm-10:30pm

238yuan+15% service charge per person

50% off for children under 12; free for children under three

Where: Level 2, Oriental Plaza, No1 Chang An Avenue, Grand Hyatt, Dongcheng.
Tel: 8518 1234 ext 3628

Balanced eating at the buffet

By Chu Meng

Chinese are eating out more than ever, and buffet dining has become a popular choice for easy meals on the run. But dietitians never tire of warning their clients about the common pitfalls of buffet dining. Avoid multiple trips, survey the buffet before you select, and stay away from fried foods.

Believe it or not, many buffets offer as many healthy selections as high-fat and high-calorie items. Here are some tips to help you get a healthy meal the next time you're in the buffet line:

1 On your first trip to the buffet table, fill at least half of your plate with fruits and vegetables. These will fill you up and provide at least two fruit and/or vegetable servings.

2 It's OK not to eat from every food group. You can include any missing nutrients at another meal later in the day.

3 Try to fill your plate with a variety of colors. Remember, the brighter the colors of fruits and vegetables, the richer they will be in anti-oxidants and nutrients.

4 Don't fill up on junk-foods high in fat, sugar, or calories. Start with a salad and low-fat dressing. If you still have room, you can add other items.

5 If a dessert is included and you can't resist temptation, pick one of the low-fat or reduced-sugar ice creams or frozen yoghurts that are frequently offered as part of buffet dining.

And portion control is the biggest problem at a buffet. Eating too much of any food is unhealthy, whether or not the food is good for you. The one trip rule is good to follow when there are so many temptations.

Please your business partners at Monsoon Café

By Chu Meng

In the center of Beijing's Financial Street, Monsoon café restaurant offers what is certainly one of Beijing's biggest variety buffets: more than 300 choices of foods, of international cuisine, in a Western environment, it is pure luxury.

The restaurant's main hall is more spacious than other buffet restaurants in five-star hotels. And the lanterns, with huge red covers, are striking. The far end of the restaurant has a good view of the south-western part of the Second Ring Road, lit up at night by swarms of cars. A grand guest room with gorgeous decor and glass-curtain walls at a quiet corner of the main hall will give you and your date an

unforgettable night.

Along two sides of the restaurant are long food display stands, with open kitchens behind them. On one side are chafing dish displays, with the open kitchens at the back ready to cook seafood, fresh beef, mutton and pork on the spot, grilled, fried, or done *teppanyaki*-style.

Another side has Japanese sushi and sashimi as well as smoked, marinated and poached salmon. The open kitchen cooks up noodles in soup, in Italian, Chinese and Southeast Asian styles. Just in front of Hagen Daas ice cream is a stand with flowing chocolate and fresh fruit – a must for chocolate fondue fans.

Monsoon Café

Opening times and prices:



Monsoon café gets fruity

Photo provided by Monsoon café

(Mon-Sun):

Breakfast buffet: 6am-10am, 198yuan +15% service charge per person

Lunch buffet: 11:30am-2pm, 198yuan +15% service charge per person

Dinner buffet: 5:30pm-10pm, 238yuan +15% service charge per person

Sunday brunch lasts from 11:30am-3pm and costs 228yuan per person. At 328yuan per person, you can treat yourself to an unlimited flow of champagne, with 15% service charge per person.

Where: 5/F InterContinental Financial Street Beijing, 11 Financial Street, Xicheng.
Tel: 5852 5916

Free sandals

Spend over 988 yuan at Lapargay in the Modern Plaza (40 Zhongyuancun Dajie, Haidian) and you will get a pair of sandals free until the end of July. For details, call 6257 6688.



20% off

The newly-opened Huan Ji Huang Sanzhi restaurant (24 Baiwanzhuang Dajie, Ganjiakou, Xicheng) specializes in fish and chicken dishes. The restaurant is currently offering 20% off all dishes. For details, call 6832 0456.



40% off

40% off tiles at B&Q (10 Maliandao, Xuanwu) until July 30. New brands like Roca will be discounted by 10%. For details, call 6331 6611.



50 yuan voucher

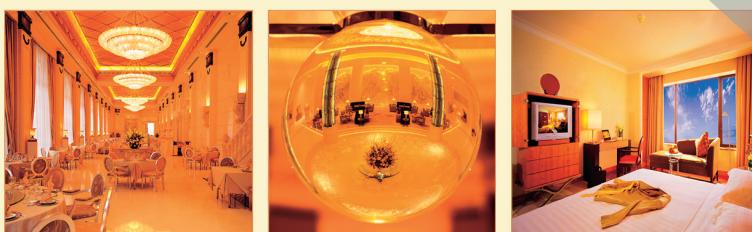
Spend over 50 yuan at Xiao Lan Yang hot pot restaurant (59 Youanmennei Dajie, Xuanwu) and get a 50 yuan discount voucher until August 14. The modern furnished restaurant offers traditional hot pot lamb. For details, call 6351 6885.



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70% off sandals

Shang Pin Zhe Kou discount store (Wukesong, Haidian) is holding a 'discount festival' with up to 70% off all sandals. For details, call 8828 3350.



Up to 20% off



Up to 20% off six models of air conditioners until July 30 at Su Ning household appliance store (Ciyunsu, Chaoyanglu, Chaoyang). There are also discounts on TVs, cell phones and Mp3 players. For details, call 6761 9988.

Free beer

The most raucous pub quiz event in town, the John Bull quiz night pulls in the hard drinking, trivia saturated crowd. Break up into teams and compete to win free beer. Entrance free, 8pm every Tuesday. For more details, 6532 5905

100 yuan voucher

Spend over 100 yuan at Xi Dan shopping mall (120 Xidan Beidajie, Xicheng) and get a 100 yuan voucher until the end of July. A number of items are also on sale. For details, call 6656 5588.

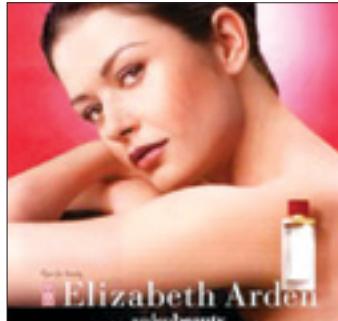
15 yuan for shark's fin soup

The Oriental Restaurant is holding a 'Crazy Offer' period between July and August with premium shark's fin soup for just 15 yuan per person. Available daily for dinner and during weekends at lunch. For more information, call 6505 2277 ext. 34.

Special dish

With summer fast approaching, Jin Gu Cang Number 3 (Sanlitun, Chaoyang) will open its terrace. While sitting outside sipping tea or coffee, you can enjoy the beautiful gardens and also eat special summer dishes from the barbecue. For details, call Sasi on 136 7132 5635.

3Elizabeth Arden



Bioscor International

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June 9–August 9
任何皮肤项目疗程
6月9日–8月9日

Spend over 780 yuan on Elizabeth Arden products at the Modern Plaza (40 Zhongyuancun Dajie, Haidian) and get a free bag of cosmetics including, 4g color lipstick, 7ml hydra cream, 10ml perfume and 3g cheek pink glow powder. For details, call 6257 6688.

(By Terence Lu)

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French Open champions: Nadal and Henin will see you on this September at Beijing

2006 China Open



September 9 – 24 Beijing Tennis Center

Nadal – Prince of Clay

Nalbandian – Power Boy from South America

Henin – Skill Queen

Vaidisova – Rising Star

Davenport – Tennis “Big Girl”



Organizers:
General Administration of Sports
Beijing Municipal Government

Co-organizers:
Tennis Administrative Center of General
Administration of Sports
Beijing Sports Bureau
China Open
Promotions Limited

Partners:
Beijing Youth Daily
Tom Group Limited



Davenport

Davydenko

Vaidisova



Theramed Tooth Paste

How much is that smell?

Animals find a mate by smell. Is this how we should explain the smell our bodies give out? And if so, why do the girls on the subway not come running over when I raise my arms? It seems that unless you're trying to find an animal to mate with, best cover up that pong with some of these very civilized products.

Gimme a kiss

By Gan Tian

Victoria-C Breath Spray

You can't take your toothbrush everywhere, but you can take a breath spray. Victoria-C is cheap, easy to carry, and most importantly effective.

Whenever you feel dry in your mouth, just push the button and let the fresh mist into your mouth, you will be refreshed and confident. Victoria-C contains liquorice, which is also good for you health.

Price: 18 yuan for each (12ml)

Available: main supermarkets and department stores

Lavoris Mouthrinse

Imagine mixing different good smells in your mouth. Lavoris makes both mint and laurel flavor mouthrinse. Probably it's best to use Lavoris Mouthrinse at bedtime, so that its effect carries on throughout the night when saliva flow is practically halted, and when oral bacteria proliferate most. When rinsing with Lavoris, you are advised to gargle with your tongue out, so that the mouthwash can reach the back of your tongue where most of the odor often lurks.

Price: 42 yuan for a 473 ml bottle; 59 yuan for a 946 ml bottle

Available: Watsons

Theramed Tooth Paste

When's the best time to use a toothbrush? The answer is when you are using toothpaste. Theramed is different because it has two functions in one bottle. You can use it as toothpaste and also mouthwash. The magic is, when giving you a good fresh mint smell in the mouth, it also protects your teeth. Isn't it great?

Price: 39 yuan.

Available: Supermarkets

Qingda Chewing Gum

Chewing gum is always the best choice for odors. Before you kiss your beloved, a chewing gum is a good option. Just don't forget to take it out...

Price: 1.5 yuan

Available: most shops and stalls



Qingda Chewing Gum



Victoria-C Breath Spray



Lavoris Mouthrinse

Wave your hands in the air

By He Jianwei

Nivea Deodorant Dry

'Nivea Deodorant Dry' has two types for women and men. It is cooling and antiperspirant, to reduce sweat, and full of delicate fragrance with no drying alcohol or antiseptic.

You can roll it in your underarm (or any other sweaty part of your body) after taking a shower or before going out. The dryness will last for 24 hours.

Price: 50ml less than 30 yuan

Available: in franchises of Watsons and Nivea's section in supermarkets.

Bodyice Deodorant Mist

Mentholatum has launched a deodorant mist only for men. It sucks up sweat and makes the skin dry and smooth with absorbing sweat powder. And it lessens perspiration consequently preventing the bacteria causing the sweat odor.

Sprinkle it in your underarm several times every day.

Price: 29.8 yuan per sprayer

Available: in franchises of Watsons and Mentholatum's section in main department stores.

Avon's Deodorant

Avon has a series of deodorants in six 'flavors', including orange, aloe, rose, camellia.

It has a strong anti-perspirant effect and makes you feel dry and cool for 24 hours.

Price: 26 yuan per bottle.

Available: in Avon's franchises or sections in shopping malls.

Footloose and fancy free

By Huang Daohen
Flexi-Patch

The patch combines ingredients formulated to assist your feet in improving general health and relieve you from foot odor. This effect is achieved by using the infrared properties of Pyrolygous Acid.

Place the patch on the soles of the feet at night. For maximum benefit, keep patches on for at least 7 hours.

Price: 2 patches for 95.9 yuan
Available: in all Watson's Supermarket

Yuanrentang Foot Patch

By applying the patch to the foot, the patch extracts toxins from the body through the blood that circulates in the soles. The patch is made of an air permeable material together with Chinese traditional medicine used to eliminate the smelly odor. After putting on the patch for a couple of hours, it turns dark black, with a pungent smell. The efficacy aside, its price is also competitive.

Price: 8 patches for 92.8 yuan
Available: Watson's

Jiazhengwang Foot Cleaner

Based on Chinese medicine theory, the foot cleaner contains a mixture of liquid sterilizers. When placed in contact with the skin and held in place over a number of hours, it will promote improved blood circulation and detoxification.

Price: 60ml for 20 yuan.

Available: underground B1 floor Zhongyou Department, or Jinxiang drugstore, Xidan



Yuanrentang Foot Patch



Avon's Deodorant



Bob was putting his foot in his mouth so often, he started keeping his socks there.

You are what you eat

By Qiu Jiaoning

There is a correlation between the foods you consume and the odor produced by your body, according to Dr Han Xiaohong from Beijing Ciji Health Checkup Chain Institution. All the things that come out of your body are strong indicators of your current level of health, as well as what adjustments you need to make in order to be healthier.

Why you smell

Red meat is the number one cause of body odor. People who consume a large quantity of red meat on a regular basis tend to have much stronger body odor than those who avoid it, said Han. As far as other foods that cause body odor, manufactured foods - those lacking fiber and made with refined white flour, added sugars, hydrogenated oils and other processed ingredients - are the big culprits.

Certain foods and drinks, such as onions, garlic, curry, certain spicy foods, coffee and alcohol, are also prime causes. Fried and baked goods may contain rancid fats and oils that lead to body odor.

What will help

When you eliminate these from your diet and shift to a healthy diet made of whole grains, leafy vegetables, fresh fruits, soy products, lots of sprouts, raw nuts and seeds, healthy oils, your body odor may all but disappear in a matter of weeks.

That's because a plant-based diet is an internal deodorizer. It's true: the chlorophyll and other phytonutrients will cleanse you from the inside out. Some of the best foods for that include parsley, cilantro, celery and all mint species. The aromatic herbs are also excellent: sage, rosemary, thyme, oregano, and so on.



If that towel wasn't there, you'd get a lungful

Photos by CFP

By Qiu Jiaoning

Been looking over your shoulder recently? Could it be that Beijing's rubbish bins are tracking your every move? Frankly, it's unlikely. Unless you live in a surrealist novel that's making some statement about, I don't know, consumer culture taken to its zenith, where your refuse actually

trots after you like Banquo's ghost, it's far more plausible that you stink.

Body odor is the term used for any unpleasant smell associated with the body. If you've been introducing yourself along with an odious personal stench, it's the social equivalent of shaking hands with your pants round your ankles.

You stink. Deal with it.

No hair odor, but hair aroma

By He Jianwei

An Arabian proverb tells us, "Every head has its headache." If you have a problem with hair odor, you may feel headachy every day. When people run from you in droves, you'll certainly find maintaining rewarding relations a serious headache.

The causes of hair odor can come as a surprise. Before you get a doctor, check a few things. First, check your shampoo. Sometimes the chemicals in shampoo can have an adverse effect on your body chemistry.

Secondly, find out if the water you use is sufficiently soft to create a good lather. Thirdly, are you rinsing well enough? It might be the issue if you have long or very thick hair.

Follow these tips to get rid of loathsome hair odor:

1. Keep your hair clean. You should choose shampoos suited to your hair type, washing your hair with soft water where possible and rinsing well.

2. Put your head somewhere clean. Change and wash the bed sheets and pillowcases often.



Some hair yesterday

Always maintain air circulation in your room.

3. Deal with scalp infections promptly. Go and see a doctor - Chinese and western medicine can clear such problems quickly and efficiently.

Make smelling hands sweet

By Qiu Jiaoning

Anyone who cooks knows what it's like to have oniony, garlicky, or fishy-smelling hands. Here are some simple and effective tips for making hands that have been exposed to pungent odors smell sweeter fast!

For garlic hands: Dry wash your

hands with coffee-grounds. The ground will absorb the garlic smell.

For onion hands: Roll fresh leaves of parsley between your hands. The parsley will neutralize the smell of onion.

For fishy hands: Rub hands with vinegar or lemon juice to remove the fishy smell.

Get a special deodorizing scrub pad for any kind of smelly hands: Obtain some dried lovage herb. Place dried lovage in a small muslin or cheesecloth bag. When needed, run the bag under hot tap water and rub the pad over your hands to remove clinging odors. It works wonders.

Underarm odor: it's the pits

By Gan Tian

We all know how embarrassing underarm odor can be. It can ruin your self-confidence and affect the way you interact with others. You owe it to yourself to be able to flail your arms around like a fool without having to worry. Dr Zhang Benyan from Peking University Health Science Center shows you how.

Sweating

Excessive sweating may have

other causes, so it is wise to be diagnosed to see if you have a medical problem.

Bathing

Bathe daily to remove bacteria from your skin, especially the armpits where bacteria is most prevalent. Scrub the armpits with a soapy washcloth as that will work better to remove the bacteria than just soap in your hands. Deodorant soap is preferable as

it helps fight bacteria more effectively than regular soaps.

Clothing

Clothing is an area many people overlook. Loosely fitting clothes allow the body to breathe better than tight clothes. The type of fabric is also very important. Synthetic fabrics don't allow the body to breathe, so use all natural fabrics. Wash your clothes often!

Get socks appeal for your stinky feet

By Huang Daohen

Smelly feet can be not only embarrassing but uncomfortable too. Throughout the average day, especially in the sweltering summer, the body naturally perspires to regulate heat in the body. To some individuals, natural perspiration is excessive in the feet, which can result in very smelly feet!

Preventing smelly feet

1. Good foot hygiene to reduce bacteria to low levels is the first place to start:

Bathe your feet daily in lukewarm water, using a mild soap.

Dry thoroughly.

Change your socks and shoes at least once a day.

Check for fungal infections between your toes and on the bottoms of your feet. If you spot redness or dry, patchy skin, get treatment right away.

2. Wear thick, soft socks to help draw moisture away from the feet. Cotton and other absorbent materials are the best.

3. Avoid wearing nylon socks or plastic shoes. Instead, wear shoes made of leather, canvas, mesh.

4. Don't wear the same pair of



Feet: stinky

shoes two days in a row.

5. Always wear socks with closed shoes.

Tighter skin in your lunch break

Dr Faith Deng from Bioscor International Clinic for Cosmetic Medicine:

Super Pulsed Radiofrequency (RF) is a new tool for the non-surgical tightening of loose or sagging skin. In its current configuration, most patients will see at least a mild improvement, with minimal downtime and minimal

risk. This technology offers a very attractive alternative to invasive facelift surgery.

The application of RF energy is the most recent addition to our arsenal in the war on the aging face. RF treatment has made possible the selective delivery of energy to the deep dermis and subdermal layers while protect-

ing the epidermis. Heating in this area causes microscopic changes and collagen contraction, with subsequent collagen remodeling over the course of months. Because no external wound is created, patients can return to normal activity immediately.

The most popular areas for the treatment are periocular and

brow areas, the cheeks, melolabial folds, jowls, and neck. Other uses for RF skin tightening in other areas, such as wrinkle, acne, are currently being explored.

All in all, RF skin tightening is the first, and currently only proven way to permanently tighten skin without surgical intervention, and without the associated expense

and downtime.

Bioscor Beijing Clinic

Where: Room 1008, E-Tower
No. 12 Guanghua Lu, Chaoyang
Free consultation in Chinese, English and Japanese.

Tel: 6503 5707 / 5706

Email: Beijing@bioscor.com.cn

www.bioscor.com.cn
(By Qiu Jiaoning)



Carriages in the carriages and horses pit

Yin Ruin (Yinxu in Chinese) is what remains of the ancient capital of the latter part of Shang Dynasty (1300 BC -1046 BC). Two weeks ago, Yin Ruin was listed in the World Cultural Heritage and became the 33rd World Cultural Heritage site in China. As part of the celebration, Yin Ruin, in the city of Anyang, Henan Province, is open to the public for a month until August 15.



Yin Ruin is the discovering place of oracle bone inscriptions



Yin Ruin's Museum

Photo by ayyx.com

Yin Ruin: Touring the Shang Dynasty



•History

Yin Ruin, discovered in 1928, is on the northwest outskirts of Anyang, spanning the Huan River from south to north, covering 24 square kilometers.

The majestic palaces, ancestral temples, royal tombs are arranged strictly in levels. Houses and hand-craft workshops can be found in the ruins. Oracle bone inscriptions and bronze wares discovered in the ruins are valuable for researching China's ancient history.

The royal tomb areas and the palace and ancestral temple area are the two central parts of Yin Ruin's claim to World Cultural Heritage status. Other areas are still under investigation.

•Palace and ancestral temple area

The Yin Ruin's Museum of Anyang, Henan Province, was constructed on the palace and ancestral temple area of Yin Ruin in 1989.

Yin Ruin Palace area

More than 50 buildings in the area are divided into three parts – palaces, temples and altars. A lot of oracle bone inscriptions were discovered in the palaces area as well as bronze and jade wares and jewelry.

Carriages and horses pits

Animal-driven vehicles were a means of transportation in ancient times. Six carriages and horse pits and the remains of paths in Yin Ruin show that China was one of

the earliest countries to use vehicles.

Fuhao Tomb

Excavated in 1976, this is the only known well-preserved imperial tomb from the Shang Dynasty. The Fuhao Temple was built to offer sacrifice to Fuhao, the earliest female general in ancient China. The Fuhao Jade Statue, carved in Fuhao's image, guards the front of the temple.

Where: Xiaotun village, Anyang city, Henan Province

Open: 8am to 6pm (October to March), 8am to 6:30pm (March to October)

Admission: 50 yuan

Transportation: No. 1, 5 and 18 buses

•Royal tombs area

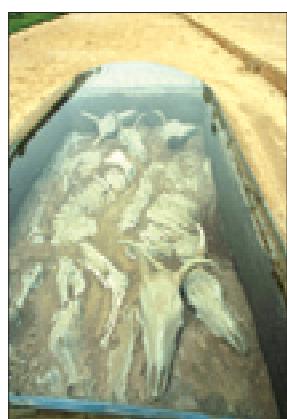
The royal tomb area is at the north bank of Huan River, opposite the palace and ancestral temple area. So far, 13 royal tombs, over 2,000 bombs for burying with the dead and sacrifice pits have been found here since 1934. A large amount of exquisite bronze and jade wares, stone wares, porcelains have been discovered here. People can visit the tomb sites with local guides.

Where: north of Houjiazhuang Village, Yindu district, Anyang, Henan Province

Open: 8am to 6pm

Admission: 21 yuan

Transportation: No. 15 bus
There is no available public transportation between the palace and ancestral temple area and royal tombs area.

Cultural relics at Yin Ruin
Photos by CFP

Get to Anyang:

You can go to Anyang directly by train. It will take you around seven hours to get there from Beijing. Or you can first go to Zhengzhou, capital city of Henan Province, by train or plane, and then, go to Anyang by train, which will take you three and a half hours, or take a coach which will take you about four hours.

Accommodation:

Taihang Hotel

The most popular hotel for foreign visitors to Anyang. There are 98 high-class rooms and luxury suites.

Where: East part of Dengta Road, Anyang, Henan Province

Tel: 0372-294 2038, 294 7469

Great Wall Hotel

The three-star Great Wall Hotel is jointly run by domestic and foreign companies. It is in the downtown area of Anyang, convenient for transportation.

Where: No. 5, Xinxing Street, Anyang, Henan Province

Tel: 0372-591 0669

Food:

Laomiao Beef

Laomiao beef was invented in the Ming Dynasty by local people living in Laomiao Village, Hua County in Anyang city. The beef is cooked with 15 seasonings and thickly flavored soup.

Stir-fried Sanbuzhan

It is also called *Guihuadian* (sweet-scented osmanthus eggs). Vitellines are the main ingredients for the dish, with sweet scented osmanthus and sugar. It is famous for not staining pans while cooking and its sweet and soft taste.

Anyang Sanxun

Anyang Sanxun refers to smoked chicken, smoked eggs and smoked pig's tripe and chitterlings. They are cooked with sawdust and cypress branches. Best dipped in sesame oil.

(By Jackie Zhang)

My Beijing

Si Hui

By Tom Mackenzie

I live in Sihui, a part of town near enough to the hustle and bustle of Guomao not to feel isolated but far enough to have that fringe-of-the-city-community feel. In many ways it's a pretty unremarkable place. New apartment blocks seem to spring from the dust every week, it is squashed between an unfinished flyover to the south and traffic packed main road to the north and my Donzhimen dwelling friends turn their noses up at the mere mention of it. But scratch the surface and Sihui reveals more character than first catches the eye.

Orientation: Exit the subway at gate C following signs to Donghen Times and Ocean's Paradise. Turn left onto Liyuanli Road and follow it up and around until you hit the railway. Cross over through the hole in the wall (not as dangerous as it sounds – the trains move so slowly up and down this track pensioners could, and do, outrun them) and head towards the sprawling residential area Oceans Paradise. This is THE place for anyone in need of a trim – there are at least six hairdressers packed within a 100-meter radius. There are also an abundance of (legitimate) massage parlors. Continue north through Ocean's Paradise until you hit Chaoyang Lu, a road that is lined with Korean, Japanese and Sichuanese restaurants. Crossing the road and continuing north will take you into 'old Sihui' where red bricked housing blocks and bustling hutongs wind all the way to Chaoyang Beilu and the serene surroundings of Honglingjin Park, a morning meeting spot for some of the most sprightly pensioners in Beijing.

Light bites: For the best jiaozi and baozi this side of Tiananmen Square, follow your nose to the tiny, white-washed eatery on Liyuanli Road and a stone's throw from Sihui Subway. The decor inside is as basic as it gets but this family-run restaurant dishes up top-notch noodles, dumplings and steamed buns that won't set you back more than a few yuan.

Fine dining: Head to the spacious two-floored Qixingyuan jiu lou restaurant at the east end of Ocean's Paradise for fantastic Chinese food with decor and atmosphere to match. Dishes cost between 20 and 80 yuan each.

Coffee and cake: Cafe In, next to the Subway chain restaurant, is a coffee drinkers paradise. Cappuccino's, lattes and espressos served up in white china mugs in this ambient little cafe. The blueberry cheesecake (22yuan) is not to be missed.

After the stresses of penalties and national scapegoating, many of Europe's top footballers are taking a break before they return to the maelstrom of a new season and the tabloid haranguing that entails. This year, the Seychelles Islands are the hottest destination. Many famous players, including headstrong old maestro Zinedine Zidane and Italian football's wunderkind Alberto Gilardino, chose the Seychelles to let off steam.

Give World Cup shame the slip in the Seychelles



The Anse Source d'Argent Beach on La Digue Island

CFP Photos

Touring the main islands

Mahé

Mahé is the largest island and home to the capital, Victoria, the international airport, the fishing and commercial ports, most of the population and many resorts and hotels.

Mahé is the center for craft artisans, fine art painters, sculptors and woodworkers.

The pirate treasure dig at Bel Ombre has been worked for decades. It is supposedly the site of an 18th century French pirate's share of the loot from a plundered Portuguese treasure ship.

At Jardin du Roi, a renovated and now working planta-

tion and spice garden there are walks, a museum and an excellent restaurant featuring interestingly spiced cuisine.

The capital, Victoria, is one of the smallest and most expensive capitals in the world, containing one third of the population. Just stroll along its streets, and immerse yourself in the colorful atmosphere and the cultural richness of the population of this particular little town.

Zonm Lib Monument (Liberation Monument)

The Monument represents a major political landmark in the history of Seychelles, which is a metal statue in the form of a robust

masculine figure with both arms raised high, its clenched fists freed from chains, demonstrating triumphant defiance and victory for a truly independent nation.

Where: 5th June Avenue, Victoria, Mahé

Le Jardin Du Roi Spice Garden

The garden is in the original French tradition of the 18th century spice trade. From its location atop hills and across valleys, the garden boasts rows of vanilla vines, citronelle, cinnamon, nutmeg, pepper and other spices, as well as medicinal and endemic plants that offer a real experience of 'nature at its best'.

The spices, beautiful hand made candles and the medicinal plants, seldom seen in the world are also on sale, which attracts people from all over the world.

Visitors can tour at their leisure or for the more adventurous – guided mountain hikes can be organized on request 24 hours in advance.

Where: Domaine de L'enfancement, Anse Royale, Mahé

Tel: 248 37 13 13

Open: 10am-5:30pm, Monday-Saturday

Ticket: Just under 4 euros for adult or child over 12 years old; free for children under 12

Geography

This republic, consisting of 115 granite and coral islands in the western Indian Ocean, has beautiful, quiet beaches, and is home to plants and animals rare in other parts of the world.

The Seychelles' enviable climate is always warm and without extremes. Its temperature seldom drops below 24°C or rises above 32°C. All but the remotest southern islands lie comfortably outside the cyclone belt making the Seychelles a year round destination for sun worshippers and beach lovers.

History

The Seychelles is a comparatively young nation which can trace its first settlement back to 1770 when the islands were first settled by the French. The islands remained in French hands until the defeat of Napoleon at Waterloo. The population had reached 3,500 when the Seychelles was ceded to Britain under the Treaty of Paris in 1814. Under the British, the population increased to 7,000 in 1825. Important estates were established during this time producing coconut, food crops, cotton and sugar cane. The Seychelles achieved independence from Britain in 1976 and became a republic within the Commonwealth.

Getting there

The national airline in the Seychelles is Air Seychelles. They offer services to both international and domestic routes. But service to some destinations is via code share on other airlines such as Air Austral, Kenya Airways, and Air Mauritius.

Direct flights are available to cities like London, Singapore, Rome, Zurich, Paris, Frankfort, Comoros, Johannesburg and Mauritius.

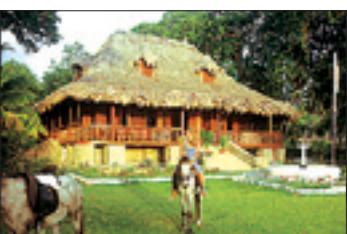
Seychelles International Airport is located 10 kilometers south of Victoria on Mahé. Transportation services to all points on Mahé are available by coach and taxi.



A beautiful bunch of nuts



Horses at the L'Union Estate



A traditional thatched home



The Sunshine Guesthouse

Praslin

It is the second largest island and is three hours away by boat or 15 minutes by air from Mahé.

In its limited area, the richness and variety of plant and animal life is astounding in Praslin. Fantastically shaped huge granite boulders dot the island. Coral reefs teeming with over 900 species of fish, living coral and shells paint a living seascape.

Most of the interior is virgin forest and the exquisitely beautiful Vallée de Mai, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1984, is the only place where the coco-de-mer palm is found in the world. Its nut is in the shape of a female pelvis.

The rare black parrot, the Seychelles' national bird, inhabits the Vallée de Mai, and if you're fortunate, you may catch a glimpse of this elusive creature. You'll certainly hear its shrill cry through the thick palm groves.

Besides the black parrot, Praslin is home to two of the world's other rarest birds: the Seychelles bulbul and the fruit pigeon.

Vallée de Mai

Where: the entrance is on the middle of the island, along the main (and only) road.

Tel: 248 32 17 35

Open: 8am to 5:30pm

Admission: 15 euros for adults and children over 12, free for children under 12

La Digue

This stunning little island is the breeding ground of the rare Black Paradise Flycatcher. The bird watching enthusiast can also spot the Chinese Bittern, Cave Swiftlet and Waxbill.

Ox carts are the primary means of transportation, which can take the visitor viewing the island, such as old plantation houses, a vanilla plantation, a copra factory, and of course, the incomparable beaches.

The wild, deserted beaches are excellent for safe swimming, snorkeling and fishing. The beaches are ideal for walking as well.

L'Union Estate

Take a step back in time and

visit L'Union Estate to see a traditional copra mill and kiln.

Granite Boulder, the natural wonder forms part of L'Union Estate, is classified as a National Monument in Seychelles. Covering an acre of land at Anse L'Union on the west coast of La Digue, it is by any standards an impressive monolith.

The granite boulder was formed during the Precambrian, around 750 million years ago, by the slow cooling of molten rocks deep within the earth's crust.

Tel: 248 23 42 40

Open: 7am-5pm

Admission: four euros for entering, 100 Seychelles rupees for one-hour horse riding

(By Jackie Zhang)



By Han Manman

The following three interns we interviewed are working for two different companies: CITIC Mobile Company and CITIC Tendering Company, both run by the Chinese state-owned CITIC Group. All of them touched on the same point in their interviews - that the biggest difference between working for a company like theirs and a large foreign firm is that they get the chance to experience a range of work in different fields.

Reshape yourself in CITIC

Tie Ning, works for the trade department, got a degree in English from Beijing International Studies University. She joined CITIC this month after a year's internship.

Our company is located in a business garden and I went past it many times when I was a student and always dreamed of working here. I was not particularly confident before the interview because I had heard that over 100 candidates had applied for this one intern vacancy. I ended up having four interviews and they all went smoothly. It was more like having a chat. I was doing some preparation before the interview, going over commonly asked questions about the automobile industry but

they didn't ask me anything about it in my interview.

I worked as an interpreter to begin with. When my boss had business negotiations with foreign clients, I came with him. I was asked to interpret for a big project. I was not familiar with the automobile industry but they immediately asked me to interpret information about the automobile industry into English and I got very stressed. Everyone at the meeting could speak English, including our Chinese counterparts. They would all know if I interpreted something wrong. Luckily, my boss always gave me related information before the negotiation, so I could do some preparation beforehand.

I soon began to participate in

trade work about the export of spare car parts. I found it more interesting than I thought. Our company is not so big so I actually felt like I was getting involved and making a difference. I followed the whole project including the budget, market research, project negotiations and quotations. I also needed to learn about finance, like what our profit margins would be when we finished the project and how to do the accounts. So I knew about the project, from start to finish.

Compared to being a student, I've learnt that employees need to be more organized. I am not particularly organized and often forget things. But from the day I started my internship, I worked with my boss so I quickly learnt

to be more organized. Every sentence the boss said was important. If I forgot something, it could end up causing a very big problem. I also learnt to write down everything I needed to do during the day, and ticked off each thing when I had done it.



Comments from CITIC Mobile Company HR Zheng Huajin: Most of our staff majored in engineering with automobile knowledge. However, their English is comparatively weak and they cannot communicate with foreign customers fluently. So we wanted to hire an intern who had majored in English. Among the 12 English major candidates we selected, some were postgraduates and some were graduates. The reason we selected Tie was because we believe that girls are more steady

and careful when they do translation work compared to boys. Her position is a comparatively basic one. If we hire the most talented students, we would be worried that they would not stay for long and this would lead to a drain of young talent at the company. When interviewed, Tie gave me the impression that she is good at communication, which is very important for a translator. By observing her during her internship, I saw that she is a good learner. She majored in English without much knowledge of the automobile industry, especially related vocabulary, but she was quick to learn.

Li Jian, works for CITIC International Tendering Co., LTD. Business Department, got a degree in International Economics and Trade from the University of International Business and Economics. She joined CITIC last July after a two-month internship.



Comments from Huo: I was in charge of Li Jian's final interview. She shows a very responsive ability in her interview, which is also shown during her internship. Among all the interns who joined our company at that time, Li Jian was the best. She has a very clear mind. For example, lots of employees just took our clients' name card and wrote down their contact details in a notebook, some even took name cards without making any record of the details. But Li Jian put together a

I had a quick temper. The work had worn away my temper. Tendering is more like a service industry and you need to put yourself in a comparatively low position when facing your clients and people from the government department that is in charge of us.

Last year, the company came to our university to select interns.

The first interview took place in a conference room. The company's human resources department held lots of students' resumes and asked us questions one by one.

When he asked me to do a self-introduction, I said, "It's all on

my resume." He then asked what my hobbies were and I answered that I like watching football but don't like to play it. The next set of interviews was held at the company's offices. I was impressed when the company director asked me about my salary expectations. I said, "I don't have a specific figure, if the company thinks the salary they give me is worth the work I have done for it, then I'll be happy with that." He smiled and said he liked my answer.

I was lucky that my internship started at a time when we were rather short-staffed. My department

gave me lots of work, which they may not have given to an intern normally. So, I was learning new things fast. I wasn't actually doing anything that was different from the people employed there. I just made sure that I put energy and enthusiasm into whatever I did.

My advice to new interns would be, forget that you're an intern. Treat it as a full-time job and do your best. Lots of chances just come around once, if you miss them, you may regret it forever. Learn to grasp the chance from your internship.

folder of all the clients' names, addresses, telephone numbers, home addresses and even their hobbies. If I asked her for client details she could find them very easily. She is a very bright girl.

I was satisfied with her internship. She had graduated and stepped into society and sometimes was unhappy when some clients were unkind or rude to her. But she soon learnt the difference between life on campus and the working world and handled her work with skill and ease.



"When choosing the talent we need, we prefer graduates. They are like 'blank paper' and can easily be reshaped into the kind of workers we need. What we emphasize to new graduates is that if they work for us they have to be prepared to get involved. We also pay more attention to their learning ability rather than their so-called educational background and various certifications. Our only condition is that our employees are graduates. Our company

believes that a university education will equip you with the skills to learn. The tendering industry covers lots of areas but does not focus on technical skills. So we prefer interns who have majored in English, international trade and law. We expect our interns to be flexible and act according to circumstances."

— **Huo Zhaoyang,**
Assistant General Manager,
CITIC Tendering Co.

Photos by Han Manman

Wang Jinglin, works for the International Tendering Co., LTD. Business department, got a degree in Automatic Control from the Beijing Institute of Technology. He joined CITIC in August 2003 after a five-month internship.

Our company is not very big but it's a good starting point for new graduates. I get more chances to learn new things. Working here is different from working in a foreign company. Foreign companies have a very strict system. You can only be responsible for the work they give you. In our company, I get to work in different fields.

In the first days of my internship, my mentor gave me some trivial tasks and told me nothing, but just asking me to do it. In my first internship day, I was doing very simple jobs but I felt the company put a lot of trust in me. I was asked to go to a company to pick up a sealed document. My mentor just told me the company's name and whom I needed to contact without telling how to get there or any other details. I felt trusted by the company. Every day, I followed with staff to various places to do business and I experienced and learned a lot from it.

I was quite quiet and introverted as a student but work has changed my character. My job requires that I meet various people and travel on business. Each time I come to a city or county, I need to contact with the relevant government department. I had to learn how to get things done quickly enough to satisfy our clients but without annoying the relevant government department.



Comments from Huo: Although Jinglin was only a senior when he applied, he has good connections and contacts related to our businesses. We knew we could use these relationships to our benefit, which is one of the reasons we took him on. But it was not the only one.

Jinglin is good at doing detailed work. He majored in automatic control, and is therefore very good at logical thinking but not so good at expressing himself. So he could do the work you gave him very well. But if you want him to exploit a new market, he may not be so good at it.

'Reflections of my CatherLand visit'



Li Yuan is a student of the Foreign Language College, Beijing University of Technology.

Photo provided by Li Yuan

By Li Yuan

Last winter we were dealing with *My Antonia* (an English book written by Willa Cather) under the guidance of my American literature professor Mary York. Different student appreciated different part then and wanted their questions solved immediately. For me, it is the meaning of happiness that tantalized me most. What is real happiness for a woman? Is Antonia happy? What would I do if I were she?

Several months later when Mary, my professor, informed me that I would visit Cather Land together with the other two students in June, I couldn't believe the distance between literature and life can be so close. And I couldn't have imagined the significance of approaching that spectacular view and amicable people whom I was about to encounter

Then we came to "the land of the free and the home of the brave" to dig out the essence of Cather's work. What beautiful, shaggy grass undulating on the land of Nebraska! For miles and miles, under the scorching sun is cool green grass, which hasn't turned red. I found my word extremely limited when considering Willa Cather's unparalleled descriptions of the Great Plain. However, I guess no one fails to feel his heart chord struck by this grand view.

On the day of the panel discussion there were many people either from other states or local who are interested or inspired by Willa Cather presented. The theme was "Teaching Cather Abroad". I was definitely impressed by the lively atmosphere of that symposium. My job at that occasion was to convey to the audience what I, as a Chinese literature

major think about Cather's works and especially the novel *My Antonia*, while those five professors with experiences of teaching abroad expressed what they thought and reflected. I found some of their comments and suggestions very constructive and thought-provoking. Like the course of Literature History should be expunged for the reason that it provides students nothing but facts. It is this point that coincides with my thought of our shortcomings as literature majors.

In most people's eyes, Chinese students like facts and conforming ideas. When we read literature, we want the teacher to tell us the theme that we can memorize or think over it when we want; when we study literature critic theory, we expect that particular theory fit exactly like a formula into manifold literature works.

Same thing is true in CatherLand. Many questions no longer need any answer when you see it in person and enjoy the bliss of epiphany. Unfortunately, we cannot visit it in winter. Otherwise it will remind us more of Antonia's pioneer spirit and the hardship she confronted in that isolated environment.

This visit to CatherLand carries more significant meanings to me than I had ever imagined. I shall never forget the visit of historical sites; the discussions among scholars, and even the little town's artistic atmosphere that I was absorbing at every pore during those days, I have also learned the beauty of literature. To produce a preeminent work requires the author of thorough perception of life. To appreciate that work also need it.

► Follow Beijing Today

This column is open to those who want to improve their English but lack foreign specialized help. We will review the English articles you send to Shirley_chen@ynet.com. Suggestions will be given on how to improve the Chinglish sentences in your articles. All interesting stories are welcomed. Please be sure the article is written in English, around 500 words in total. Please do not forget to include your name and address.

► Chinglish on the way

This column aims to identify chinglish in public areas. If you see a chinglish sign, please take a picture and send it to Shirley_chen@ynet.com with your name and address.

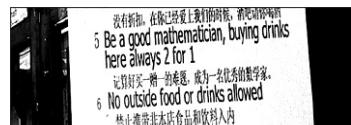


Getting into deep water

By Philip Space

*Water deep dangerous!
No descending in to the lake!*

This sign was found at the edge of a lake on the outskirts of Beijing. The message is pretty clear but there are problems with the sentence structure that should be addressed. 'Water deep dangerous!' would be better written '**The water is deep and dangerous!**' 'No descending in to the lake' would be better written '**No swimming in the lake**'.



It all adds up

By Philip Space

*Be a good mathematician, buying drinks here always 2 for 1
No outside food or drinks allowed*

The owners of the Beijing bar displaying this sign have clearly tried to add a touch of humor to their marketing message. And the point they are trying to make is clear. But a few simple structural and grammatical changes would improve this sign significantly.

Instead of 'Be a good mathematician, buying drinks here always 2 for 1', a native English speaker would write something like '**Do the math – drinks here are always 2 for 1!**' The second line, 'No outside food or drinks allowed' would be better written '**Do not bring your own food or drink into the bar**'.



John Gordon, from the United States, is the vice president of Beijing New Channel School.

have a thorough perception of life'.

There are other language mistakes that you could fix, but my main criticism of your article is that you fail to develop your analysis of literature education in China. This seems to be one of your main points, but you only mention it in passing. Also, you attempt to link the formulaic nature of literature education to your visit to CatherLand in your second-to-last paragraph, but do a poor job of developing the link.

Overall, though, you have written a very interesting article that shows a solid command of the English language.

Best,

John

*Photos provided by
Purple Haze Restaurant & Bar*

(By Chen Shasha)

Friday, July 28

Exhibition**Woodcut Exhibition**

Where: Amelie Gallery, 505, No. 5 Building, China Central Place, 89 Jianguo Lu, Chaoyang
When: Tue-Sun 11am-7pm, until July 31
Admission: Free
Tel: 6530 7048

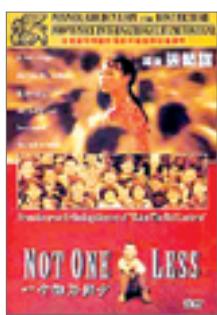
**Oil Painting Exhibition by Choi, Ki-Deuk**

Where: New Millennium Gallery, 3818 Warehouse, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang
When: Daily 10am-6:30pm, until August 3
Admission: Free
Tel: 6432 4122

Movie**Not One Less**

Directed by Zhang Yimou. Wei, a 13-year-old primary school graduate, has been pressed into service as a substitute teacher at Shuiquan Primary School. When one of her students is sent to the city to work off his parents' debt, Wei tries her best to bring him home.

Where: Cherry Lane Movies, Inside Kent Center, 29 Liangmaqiao Lu, Anjialou, Chaoyang
When: 8pm, until July 29
Admission: 30-50 yuan
Tel: 13901134745

**Music****The Scoff**

Sleazy glam rock attitude and fully charged sounds.

Where: D-22, 13 Chengfu Lu, Haidian

When: 11pm

Admission: 30 yuan

Tel: 6265 3177

Saturday, July 29

Movie**The Days**

Wang Xiaoshuai's 1992 debut is an exploration of the relationship between a married couple who are painters.

Where: Box Cafe/ Space In Imagination, Xiwangzhuang Xiaoqu, Shuangqing Lu, Haidian

When: 7:30pm
Admission: Free
Tel: 6279 1280

**Falling Snow in Yili**

This documentary is about a girl called Baheila who lives a nomadic life with her family in the snowy mountains of Xinjiang.

Where: AKS Culture Center, A-3E Beijing Linda Mansion, Dongtucheng Lu, Chaoyang

When: 2pm
Admission: Free
Tel: 6451 4065

**Outdoor****Grasslands & Sino-Russian Border Town**

Where: Explore beauty in the Hulun Buir Grasslands, which is fed by hundreds of rivers and among the most lush in China – free of population and with uninterrupted green stretches in all directions.

When: until July 30
Tel: 6432 9341 (Chinese Culture Club)



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When: Tue-Sun 11am-7pm, until July 31
Admission: Free
Tel: 6530 7048

Where: New Millennium Gallery, 3818 Warehouse, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang
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Where: D-22, 13 Chengfu Lu, Haidian
When: 11pm
Admission: 30 yuan
Tel: 6265 3177

Sunday, July 30

Exhibition**Images of The Cultural Revolution**

The photography of Weng Naiqiang from a powerful period in history.

Where: 798 Photo Gallery, 798 Dashanzi, 4 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

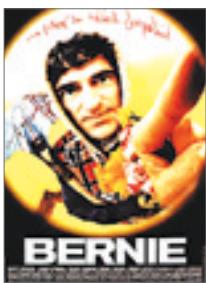
When: Daily 10am-6pm, until August 24
Admission: Free
Tel: 6438 1784, 6437 5284

**Dreams of the Doll – Gao Xiang Solo Exhibition**

Where: Green T. House Gallery, 6 Gongti Xi Lu, Chaoyang
When: until September 22
Admission: Free
Tel: 6552 8310, 13601137132

**The Thirteen – Chinese Video Show**

Where: Platform China, East End Art Zone – Zone A, Caochangdi Village, Chaoyang
When: Tue-Sun 11am-6pm, until August 13
Admission: Free
Tel: 13601006060

**Movie****Bernie**

A dark comedy about a young orphan called Bernie who decides to leave his orphanage and find his parents.

Where: French Culture Center, 18 Guangcui International Apartment, West Road of Workers' Stadium, Chaoyang
When: 6pm, until August 3
Admission: 10-20 yuan
Tel: 6553 2627

Stage in August

Performance**Disney's Winnie the Pooh**

Where: Poly Theatre, No 14 Dongzhimen South Street, Chaoyang
When: 7:30pm, August 16-27
Admission: 180-1,000 yuan

Cat on a Hot Tin Roof

Who: China Puppet Art Troupe

Where: China Puppet Theater, 1 A Anhua Xili, Chaoyang
When: 7:30pm, August 11-13
Admission: 50-240 yuan

Swan Lake Puppet Show

Who: China Puppet Art Troupe

Where: China Puppet Theater, 1 A Anhua Xili, Chaoyang
When: 10:30am, August 19-27
Admission: 50-240 yuan

Music**Beijing Jazz Week**

Who: Golden Buddha Jazz Unit
When: 7:30pm, August 23-25
Where: Zhongshan Music Hall, Inside Zhongshan Park, Dongcheng

Admission: 10-200 yuan
The Lion King – Movie Music Symphony Concert

Who: Symphony Orchestra



of China National Chinese Opera and Dance Drama Company
When: 7:30pm, August 6
Where: Zhongshan Music Hall, Inside Zhongshan Park, Dongcheng

Dongcheng
Admission: 10-200 yuan

The Second International Chinese Choral Festival

Where: Beijing Concert Hall, 1 Beixinhua Jie, Xicheng

When: 7:30pm, August 22-25
Admission: 20-100 yuan

Children's Chorus

Who: Beijing International Children Chorus

Where: Beijing Concert Hall, 1 Beixinhua Jie, Xicheng
When: 7:30pm, August 18
Admission: 20-100 yuan
(By Qiu Jiaoning)